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May 24, 1920, Temperature 76

No. 18,266.

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號四廿月五年一十二百九千一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1921.

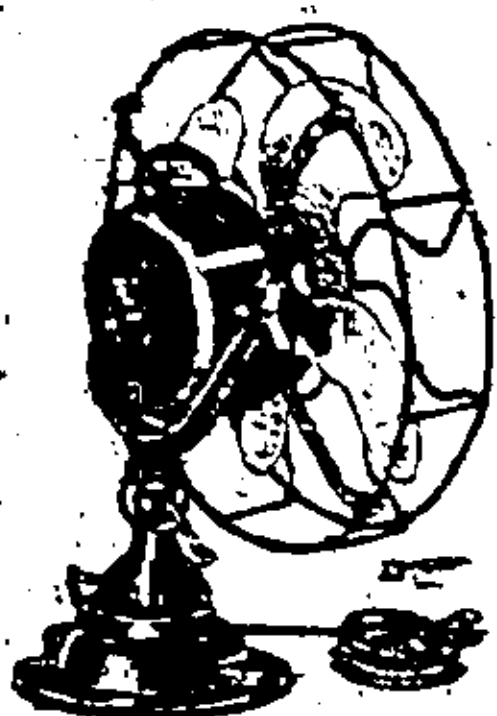
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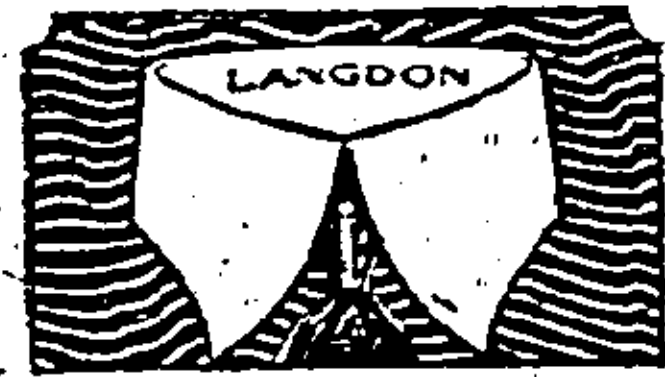
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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail)

EMPIRE POLICY.

INDIANS SEEK RACIAL EQUALITY.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

LONDON, May 23.

Mr. Sastri on May 19 interviewed by Reuter, declared his attitude on the Imperial conference would be one of friendliness towards all proposals tending to make the Empire a powerful political unit. He emphasised the need for absolute equality for Indians and other Dominion subjects. He would advance at the Conference the principle that if Dominion subjects were free to come to India to trade or practise professions, Indians were equally free to settle in any Dominion. India should be independent fiscally. Conceivably India would be willing to sell England's goods at preferential rates, but why should India sell goods more cheaply to South Africa, which ill-treated Indians, than to foreign countries unless India got some advantage in return. With regard to the Anglo-Japanese treaty, Indians would continue to criticise it as long as it provided for Japanese assisting to maintain order in India. Referring to defence Mr. Sastri urged that India at present wanted her expenses greatly curtailed. India could not consent to any defence arrangements which would abolish her power of control subject to imperial requirements. He declared that India would not consent to send an Indian squadron to assist Australia in the event of war with Japan as long as Indians were excluded from Australia. Similarly the attitude of South Africa to Indians did not make for co-operation. South Africa invited Indians to assist her when labour was scarce and made promises which he hoped would be kept. He concluded by hoping that the conference would result in ameliorating the lot of Indians in different parts of the Empire.

WAR CRIMINALS.

LITTLE GERMAN PUBLIC INTEREST IN TRIALS.

SHOCKING CRUELTY DESCRIBED.

LEIPZIG, May 23.

Trials of war criminals have opened. Cinema operators waited outside the Hotel Astoria for the departure of the British commissioners and witnesses but there was little public interest. There was a mere sprinkling of spectators outside and inside the Supreme Court. The Solicitor-General, Sir Ernest Pollock, the head of the commission and three colleagues were accommodated at a table facing seven judges. Sergeant Heyman was the first case charged with ill-treatment of prisoners at Herne Camp.

FRIGHTFUL TREATMENT.

Some of the frightful treatment meted out to prisoners was described in the trial of Heyman whom the President examined for two hours. He admitted beating prisoners. The evidence showed that men were kept under a hot and cold water douche for hours, an ordeal sometimes resulting in the unbalancing of their minds. One man died from this cause. Others were clubbed because they refused to do mining work. Instances were quoted of bread and water punishment extending for 56 days.

EGYPT QUIET AGAIN.

NO BRITISH CASUALTIES REPORTED.

ALEXANDRIA, May 23.

An official communique states that with the exception of some firing from balconies which the authorities have threatened to subdue with machine guns, the rioting has now been quelled. The total casualties were 23 killed and 130 wounded. There were no British casualties.

LONDON, May 23.

According to the Foreign Office, latest reports from Egypt state that order has been restored. Four rioters were killed at Alexandria and three at Cairo, while 24 Egyptian soldiers were wounded.

MORE WAR INEVITABLE.

AMERICA TO SEEK POWER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

NEW YORK, May 23.

In connection with the funeral ceremonies in honour of 5,000 dead soldiers brought from France, President Harding laid a wreath on the coffin of the first American soldier to die on German soil inscribed "It must not be again."

President Harding in the course of a long patriotic address, said that he did not pretend there would be no war but wished America might be a nation so powerful in righteousness that none dare provoke her wrath.

AMERICAN INDUSTRY.

PUTTING THE NATION'S HOUSE IN ORDER.

NEW YORK, May 23.

Speaking at a banquet, President Harding appealed for the co-operation of every factor of American industry to put the nation's house in order. He promised that government interference in business would be reduced to a minimum and Government co-operation with all properly conducted businesses would be expanded and broadened. He suggested that allied loans should be put in more tangible form. Exchange facilities should be improved. All financial policies should be directed to the protection of the gold standard.

HOME CRICKET.

AUSTRALIANS' MATCH WITH MARYLEBONE.

LONDON, May 23.

In glorious weather, before 15,000 spectators, with a fast wicket the Australians made 191 runs. Gregory made 43 runs. Dursan, who took seven wickets for 84 runs, bowled fast and kept good length. Marylebone at the close had 18 runs for six wickets. Hendren made 52, including eight fours. Cambridge beat Somerset by six runs and 89 runs. Warwick beat Northants by 168 runs.

THE DOLLAR.

To-day's closing rate 2.5 7/8

To-day's opening rate 2/5 7/8

KOWLOON RAILWAY.

BRITISH SECTION.

REPORT FOR LAST YEAR.

The Report on the Working of the British section of the Kowloon-Canton railway for 1920 states *inter alia*—

The gross receipts for the year were \$520,178.10 as against \$490,092.77 for 1919, an increase of \$30,085.33.

The balance after paying working expenses stands at \$33,032.06 which is \$40,028.57 less than the previous year. This difference, however, is more than accounted for by the general increase in salaries granted to the staff, the high cost of coal, and sleeper renewals.

For the last five years the results are as follows—

	Gross Receipts	Working Expenses	Net Receipts
1916	\$366,215	\$236,691	\$69,524
1917	428,246	337,431	90,814
1918	433,274	336,221	97,053
1919	490,092	417,032	73,060
1920	520,178	487,144	33,032

The through and joint sectional passengers carried were as follows—

	1918	1919	1920
Passengers booked by stations in British territory to stations in China	307,494	344,716	365,665

Passengers booked by stations in China to stations in British territory—

	1918	1919	1920
Main line	323,642	354,699	373,776

The local passengers carried were as follows—

	1918	1919	1920
Main line	256,379	345,314	392,206
Branch	45,187	48,917	47,787

SPORTS.

LAWN BOWLS.

K.B.G.C. V. C.C.C.

At Kowloon on Saturday, the Kowloon Bowling Green Club were at home to the Craigower Cricket Club's Bowls Section, in the first match in connection with the Hongkong Lawn Bowls League. A very interesting struggle resulted in the home team scoring a decisive victory on one rink, and winning by narrow margins on the other two. Kowloon won by 24 points.

The scores were—
1st rink: D. Barr, G. Henderson, S. Gray and G. Edwards (K.B.G.C.) 18; W. Rose, A. Ellis, B. Frost and T. Pitt (C.C.C.) 17.
2nd rink: W. Healey, D. Allan, P. Farrell and R. Lapsley (K.B.G.C.) 21; C. Alves, L. Rodrigues, L. Lammert and L. Rose (C.C.C.) 19.
3rd rink: D. Stoneham, D. Harvey, C. Atkinson and W. Russell (K.B.G.C.) 34; F. Thompson, R. Bass, A. Forbes and D. Oxberry (C.C.C.) 13.

LOCAL WEDDING.

HALE-LUNGAIR.

On Saturday at St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, Mr. William Eric Hale, manager of the local agency of the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Co., was married to Miss Eleanor Elizabeth Lungair, who recently arrived from Home. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. G. R. Lindsey. The bride was given away by Mr. J. S. McCann and was attended by Mrs. N. Lamb as Matron-of-honour and Master Neville Wilson as Page. The best man was Mr. Eric Roberts and Mr. Martin acted as organist.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. McCann. The happy couple then left to spend their honeymoon at Macao.

Through Sino-Japanese co-operation, an important organization which is called the "North-Eastern Industrial Development Association," has been formed with its headquarters in Mukden and a capital of 20 million dollars. The object of the association is to develop natural resources in Manchuria and Mongolia, for instance, the cultivation of rice and wheat, the felling and planting of trees in the mountains and the development of the rich gold, coal and other minerals. This will meet the demand for rice in Japan in the future.

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Quality 933 Vests & Drawers,
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" 21 Pyjamas.

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Public Auctions.

Three Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

WEDNESDAY, May 25, 1921, commencing at 12 o'clock (noon) at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, 1 Plymouth Rock Creek and 3 Hens, 1 Leghorn Cock and 9 Hens. On view on day of sale.

Terms—Cash on delivery.

LAMMERT BROS., Auctioneers.

Hongkong, May 21, 1921.

FARES FOR PUBLIC VEHICLES.

CHAMPS.

I.—In Victoria, with two Drivers.
Quarter hour, 10 cents
Half hour, 20
One hour, 30
Two hours, 50
Three hours, 70
Six hours, 1.00
Day (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.), 1.50

If the trip is extended beyond Victoria, half fare extra.

Between the hours of 8.30 p.m. and 6 a.m. the above fares shall be increased by 50 per centum.

II.—Beyond Victoria, with four Drivers.
Hour, 0.60 cents
Three hours, 1.00
Six hours, 1.50
Day (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.), 2.00

III.—In the Hill District.
With 2 Drivers With 4 Drivers.

Quarter hour, \$0.15 \$0.20
Half hour, 0.30 0.40
One hour, 0.50 0.60
Two hours, 0.70 0.90
Three hours, 1.00 1.20
Six hours, 1.50 1.80
Day (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.) 1.50 2.00

RICKSHAS.

I.—In the Island of Hongkong, in company with Victoria.

Ten minutes, 5 cents
Quarter hour, 10
Half hour, 15
One hour, 20
Every subsequent hour, 20

Note.—If the ricksha be engaged within the City of Victoria, and be discharged outside the Western part of the City of Victoria after 9 p.m., or be discharged to the East of Bay View Police Station on the Eastern side of the City of Victoria after 9 p.m., an extra half fare shall be charged.

II.—In Kowloon.

Quarter hour, 5 cents
Half hour, 10
Hour, 15
Every subsequent hour, 10

III.—Taipo Road.

Twenty cents shall be added for each extra hour (or part of an hour) if the driver causes the journey to take longer than—

4th mile, 75 cents 1 hour.
Return, 1.00 2 hours.
Beyond 4th to 6th mile, 1.00 3 hours.
Return, 1.50 4 hours.
Beyond 6th to 9th mile, 1.50 4 hours.
Return, 2.00 5 hours.
Beyond 9th to 11th mile, 2.00 5 hours.
Return, 2.50 6 hours.

Fares for journeys beyond the 11th mile to be a matter of previous arrangement in each case.

The fares here set out to apply to one ricksha with three coolies from Tsai Sha Road.

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14 years' experience.

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Communications relating to news should be addressed to THE EDITOR.

Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.

All matter for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

Rate of subscription to "China Mail" is 95 per annum; per quarter and per month 25 and 10 cents respectively.

Orders for extra copies of the "China Mail" should be sent as soon as possible as the supply is limited. Cash 10 cts. Credit 25 cts. per copy.

The "China Mail" is delivered free at all subscription offices in Hongkong and Kowloon.

Postage is charged at the rate of fifty cents per month.

Rate of subscription to the "Overland China Mail" is \$12 per annum; postage \$1 per annum extra. Single copy twenty-five cents each.

Advertisements and notices to correspondents on pages 2, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 should be sent not later than 11.30 a.m.

Advertisements and notices to correspondents on pages 10, 11, 12 and 13 should be sent not later than 1 p.m.

New advertisements should be sent in before 8 p.m.

Advertisements and notices which are not ordered to a fixed period will be continued until ordered to stop.

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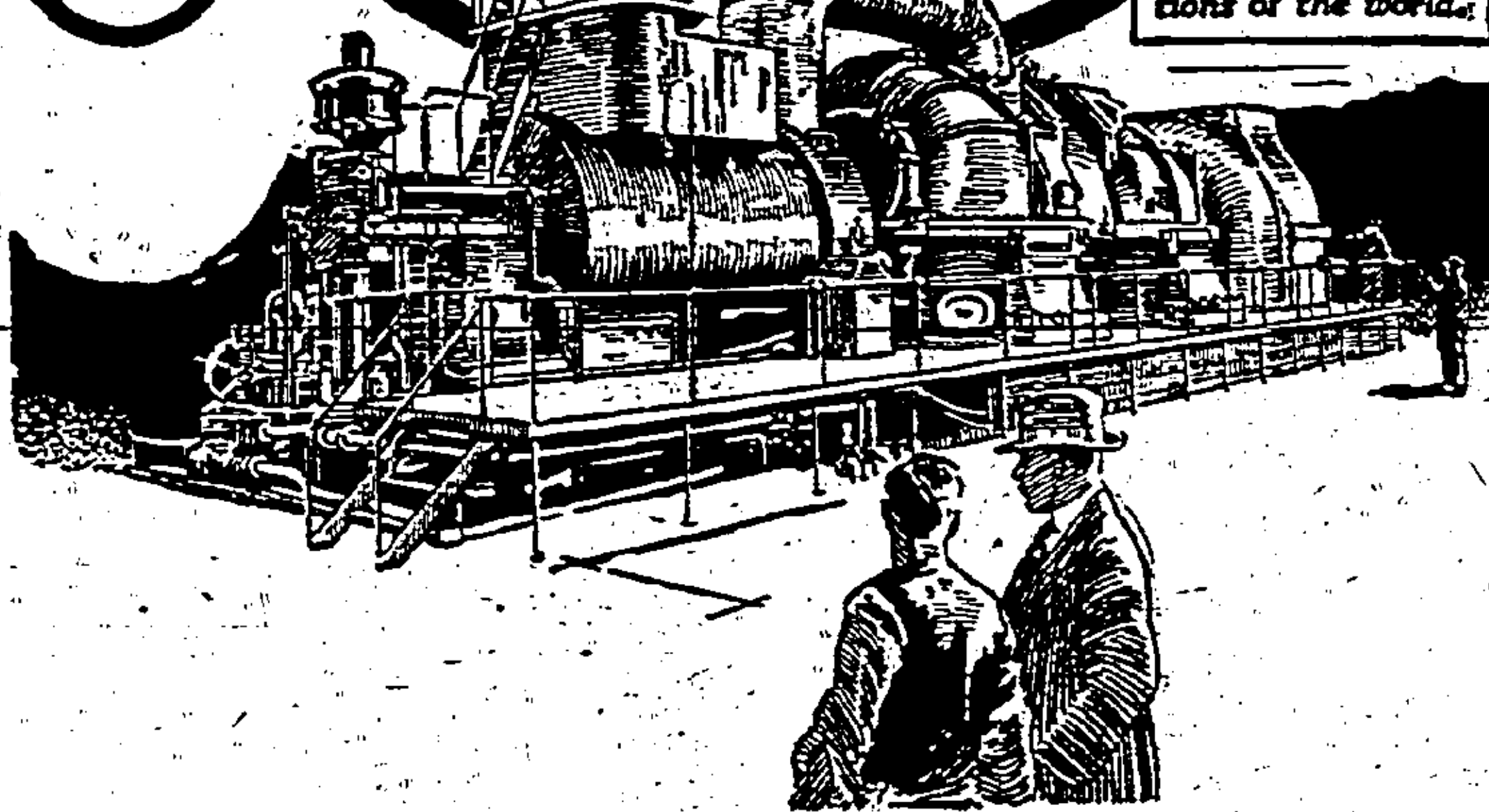
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This space will show weekly a new aspect of one of the great industrial institutions of the world.

"CITY OF DESPAIR"

SLUMP AT SINGAPORE.

A LURID PICTURE.

The following article, dated Singapore, February 20, was accepted and printed by the *Manchester Guardian* and we reproduce it in order to show what our friends at home are being told about us here, say the *Straits Times*. It is signed by W. J. Makin of whom we have no knowledge beyond the ignorance he displays concerning his imaginative City of Despair. (It is not a bad sketch.—Ed. C.M.)

The best way to see the sights of Singapore is to sit in a long cane chair on the verandah of the Hotel de l'Europe with a cool drink in easy reach. Singapore loafs round you. It reaches out a limp arm for a gin and says, "Of course, it's no place for a decent white man. No one wants to live here particularly. But then, there's the rubber."

That, apparently, is the one argument for existence in Singapore. Rubber! What a word to conjure with a year ago. Now Singapore swears at the mention of it. Existence in Singapore is as in a hothouse. One struggles against an overwhelming luxuriance of tropical growth, a damp, feverish climate, and a congestion of coolies from almost every part of Asia. But Singapore is now struggling for its existence in an economic sense. The world's great rubber slump has almost overwhelmed it.

"There are no less than five big firms here tottering on the brink of ruin. If any of them go smash, then the whole rubber industry goes with them." (Thus a rubber broker, who looks as though he is feeling the strain.) "Of course, no one wants rubber. The rubber bought here now is purely for speculative purposes. Gambling in the rubber market is rampant, and someone has to pay the piper. More than one well-known figure in Singapore life has dropped out of existence in the last few months—just dropped out."

And so Singapore is a city under a cloud. It has an air of waiting and fearing the worst. Its men sit apart, drinking in slow, meditative fashion, or lounging listlessly against the bars. Everyone seems weary of the topic of rubber. Even the newspapers have stopped discussing the situation, contenting themselves with a laconic price quotation each day. "Thirty-five cents a pound to-day," growled the broker. "And I remember the day when it reached one dollar ten."

The present price, approximating to 10d. a pound, is a terrific slump for the planter. And capitalizing a boom after the war, Malay planters brought more and more rubber into cultivation.

Other crops, like copra, were disregarded. Everybody was making a fortune out of rubber. Rubber production reached its zenith, and now the markets of London and New York are choked with unsalable stock.

A visit to a plantation on the island of Singapore showed the stagnation existing there. A car took us through the jungle to a place of hills and dunes. On the slopes were the rubber plantations, the cultivated yellow soil stretching away into a jungle of palm and bamboo. No workers were to be seen, and the tin cups hung in a forlorn fashion at the base of the trees. The planter, a picturesque figure in his tarai hat and khaki shorts, took us to his imposing bungalow. His wife, an English girl, with the clear pallor of these parts, talked wistfully about London.

"No possibility of going home yet," said the planter. "It's as much as some of us can do to hold on. I've discharged over three hundred coolies within the last month. Simply cannot afford to keep them on. Even two European assistants have had to go."

It is a long story of continued efforts to face the slump. Production cut down 10, 15, even 30 per cent. Now there is a general demand for a 50 per cent. reduction. "We're even burning crude rubber on this estate," simply got no market for it. If I wasn't so committed to rubber here I'd sell out and plant sugar in Java."

But it is in Singapore that one sees how desperate is the state of affairs. Tamils are being herded on the boats back to India. Chinese coolies, with their gaily labelled boxes, struggle frantically in a congestion of sampans to reach the steamer that is to take them back to the Far East. One discovers occasional Europeans travelling to China in the hope of a job. Their lot is unenviable. A man without a job in the East drifts so easily. The number of European assistants in Malaya searching for work has become so great that the Government have opened an Unemployment Bureau. But the young man regards it cynically. "What's the use of it when there is no work to give us?"

So several of them live on the generosity of friends, often to drift finally into the Archipelago, where a white man may live a life of beachcombing. In John Little's, at the hour of the gin-sling, one found the same crowd of apathetic drinkers. The men looked unhappily and the women desperate. "Of course the slump will come to an end some day. The world must have rubber. But it's the waiting and the fear that we can't hold out to the end."

The speaker lit a cigarette with nervous fingers. "See that man over there? Used to be one of the soundest men in Singapore. Ran his four-seater car and went home regularly every year. Now the rubber slump is killing him. The car has been sold, and there's no prospect of him going home for many a day. And he's not the only one."

I leave these isolated and quiet drinkers. They oppress you with the sense of men waiting for the inevitable. It is a city of despair.

BOND-STREET TUNNEL.

SURPRISE FIND.

COURSE OF A LOST RIVER.

Workmen busy on repairs in New Bond-street, W., have just broken into a long, empty, brick tunnel, which for generations has lain under the very middle of the roadway unknown to anybody.

Distinguished archaeologists, including Mr. Philip Norman, F.S.A., and C. R. Peers, Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments at the Office of Works, investigated the mysterious tunnel and were much puzzled by it. It has been traced as far as Clifford-street in one direction and as far as Conduit-street at the other, a distance of 184ft. It was found blocked at both these places, but further excavations are to be made to see if it extends farther. The tunnel is very strongly made of red brick and is 5ft. across and 6ft. high. It is perfectly dry and in excellent condition.

In the opinion of the experts it is probably a conduit built over an old stream. The fact that the floor of the tunnel is flat and apparently of earth is favourable to this view. The investigators were greatly surprised to hear of the discovery of the tunnel, of which there is believed to be no record. They stated that they had not heard of there being any stream in that place.

A TIBETAN TRIBUTARY. It may have been the course of one of the little lost rivers of London. Owing to the slope of the ground the stream may have run away from Piccadilly towards Oxford-street, and perhaps joined on to a branch of the Tyburn river, which flowed in this neighbourhood.

It is difficult to estimate the age of the tunnel, but one theory is that it is as old as New Bond-street, which dates back to 1721. The tunnel is to be filled in, and a large part of the work has already been done.

Each year after that I used to pitch my camp on the same spot on the bank of the Pwin Gunga River when on my annual expedition in pursuit of tiger.

On the heights a few miles from the river, overlooking a tiger-haunted valley, the ziarat, or tomb, of Shaikh Farid, a Mohammedan saint, gleamed upon the cliff.

Here on this occasion and each year afterwards, at the request of my followers who were Hindus, a goat was sacrificed to propitiate the jungle deity who presided over those sylvan solitudes. Without this sacrifice, my men assured me, we would have no luck with the tigers.

The goat was slaughtered and its flesh cooked and eaten on the spot, together with unleavened bread which was made there also.

Next day I killed a tigress in the valley below the shrine, and the deed of the sacrifice had been so propitious and no doubt the flesh of the goat, good, that my men said another goat must be slain.

There was in the vicinity another valley, presided over by a Hindu deity, up which a narrow path wound its way into the forest.

Along this I wended my way one morning at the head of my little band of faithful followers, who have all, alas! long since gone to the Happy Hunting Grounds.

Here in the dusk were impressed the foot-prints of many creatures.

There was the great sign manual of a mighty tiger. A bear had ambled along, and after him a panther. Deer, antelope, pigs, porcupines, peafowl, partridges, and little quail—all these had passed by in the silent watches of the night, or in the early morning.

By the roadside stood the shrine of the jungle god, represented by a red-painted stone in a little hut from the summit of which a few red and white rags fluttered in the breeze.

The goat was taken to the shrine, its head was anointed with country spirit and when it bowed down before the graven image, as it certainly did, it was immediately slaughtered, its blood spilt, and its severed feet hung up as an offering within the sacred enclosure.

The flesh was cooked in camp and devoured the same evening. Two days later I killed the big tiger whose tracks we had seen.—Daily News.

NOTICES.

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HONGKONG HOTEL GARAGE.

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THE PEAK HOTEL.

1,500 Feet above Sea Level.

15 Minutes from Landing Stage.

Under the Management of—

Mrs. BLAIR.

(Two minutes from Star Ferry). PALACE HOTEL KOWLOON

Recently renovated and refurnished, electric light and fans throughout and entirely under new management. Cuisine under the personal supervision of the proprietor. Bar and Billiard Rooms. Terms moderate. Special terms to families on application to

Telephone K. 3. Telegraphic Address: "PALACE" J. H. OXBERRY, Proprietor.

HOTEL "ASIA"

WEST BUND, CANTON.

Leading Hotel in South China.

First class Accommodation. Electric Lights, Fans and Elevators. Roof Garden. Hairdressing Saloon.

Splendid Views of City and Pearl River.

Excellent Cuisine. Moderate Rates.

Under the Management of the

SUN CO., LTD., CANTON.

KING EDWARD HOTEL

CENTRAL LOCATION

ALL ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS Free Entrance, Electric Light, Fans and Lifts, Elevators, Bath and Sanitary Fittings, Hot and Cold Water System throughout. Best of Food and Service.

Telephone 272. Telegraphic Address: "VICTORIA" J. WITCHELL, Manager.

FRENCH LESSONS

G. ROUSSEAU

15, Morrison Hill Road

BURNT OFFERINGS.

TIGER STORIES.

THE UNCHANGING EAST.

The East is very conservative, and it is not surprising that many customs described in the Bible survive there to this day.

There you may see the ox treading out the corn, the seamless garment, and water drawn from the wells in the village by the women.

Many years ago I came for the first time upon the ceremony of burnt sacrifice when I was encamped in the jungle.

Each year after that I used to pitch my camp on the same spot on the bank of the Pwin Gunga River when on my annual expedition in pursuit of tiger.

On the heights a few miles from the river, overlooking a tiger-haunted valley, the ziarat, or tomb, of Shaikh Farid, a Mohammedan saint, gleamed upon the cliff.

Here on this occasion and each year afterwards, at the request of my followers who were Hindus, a goat was sacrificed to propitiate the jungle deity who presided over those sylvan solitudes. Without this sacrifice, my men assured me, we would have no luck with the tigers.

The goat was slaughtered and its flesh cooked and eaten on the spot,

together with unleavened bread which was made there also.

Hughes & Hough
AUCTIONEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT
AND ADMIRALTY.

Coal Contractors
General Brokers.
PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,
(on account of the Government),

WEDNESDAY,
May 25, 1921, commencing at
2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms,
No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

**TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD
FURNITURE, BRASS AND TEAK
WOOD TWIN BEDSTEADS,
CARPETS.**

comprising—
Dining Suites, Chesterfield Sofas,
Arm-chairs (new), Card and Occasional
Tables, Teakwood Twin Bedsteads,
large and small Wardrobes, Dressing
Tables and Chairs, Washstands, &c.,
(fumed Teakwood), Sideboards, Dinner
Wagons, Dinner Services, Crockery, &
Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery,
&c., Bath Room Utensils, Electro-plated
Ware, One American Ice Chest.
Electric Reading Lamps, Screens,
Sundry Bedroom Furniture, Chairs,
Cabinets, Pictures, &c.
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).
Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, May 19, 1921.

G. R.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,
Subject to Reserve,
on

SATURDAY,
May 28, 1921, at 10.30 a.m.,
at Royal Army Service Corps Pier.

W. D. Vessel "HERCULES"

Length - - - 85 feet.
Beam - - - 17 - 2 inches.
Depth - - - 10 - 3
Displacement Tonnage 170 Tons.
Engine - - - Cor's Palmouth.
Horse Power - - 330 H.P.
Knots 10. Working Pressure per
square inch 150 lbs.
Built at Palmouth.
Materials of Construction Wood to
water-line Iron Plate.
Approximate Carrying Capacity 25
Tons or 100 Passengers.
As she now lies.
A detailed list of fittings to be sold
with the ship may be seen at these
offices.
The vessel will be open to inspection
from TO-DAY to the day of sale in-
clusive between hours of 10 a.m. and
4 p.m.
Permits for inspection will be issued
on application at the Auctioneers.
Ship may not be viewed without
permit.

Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers to the Government.
Hongkong, May 20, 1921.

LONDON-DIRECTORY

with Provincial and Foreign Sections,
enables traders to communicate direct
with
MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS
in London and in the Provincial Towns
and Industrial Centres of the United
Kingdom and the Continent of Europe.
The names, addresses and other details
are classified under more than 2,000 trade
headings, including
EXPORT MERCHANTS
with detailed particulars of the Goods
shipped and the Colonial and Foreign
Markets supplied;
STEAMSHIP LINES
arranged under the Ports to which they
call, and indicating the approximate
Sailings.
One-inch BUSINESS CARDS of Firms
desiring to extend their connections, or
Trade Cards of
DEALERS SEEKING AGENCIES
can be printed at a cost of £1. 10s. 9d.
for each trade heading under which they
are inserted. Larger advertisements
from 2s. to 21s.

A copy of the directory will be sent by
parcel post for £2, net cash with order.
THE LONDON DIRECTORY CO., LTD.,
25, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4,
England.

TAIYO & CO.
GRANITE
ROOTS AND SHOES
MADE TO ORDER
No. 10, Wing Lok St.

KEATING'S

all killed by
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WANT

25 WORDS & INSERTIONS.
\$1. PREPAID.
Every additional word 4 Cents
for 3 insertions.

WANTED.

YOUNG ENGLISHMAN, seeks
position as General Assistant,
Traveller, or any position of trust.
Commercial experience. Bookkeeping
and general office routine. Excellent
references. Now disengaged. Please
reply Box 1290, c/o "China Mail."

WANTED.—To PURCHASE South
China Morning Post Shares.
Apply A.R.C., c/o "China Mail Office."

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—ONE or TWO LOTS of
LAND, in Jordan Road, Kowloon,
about seven minutes by Ricksha from
Ferry. For plan & further particulars
apply Box 1288, c/o "China Mail."

INTIMATIONS.

REPULSE BAY HOTEL.

THE Management beg to announce
that the WEST WING EXTEN-
SION and the new GARAGE will be
completed during the month of June,
1921.

The Management having received
numerous applications for monthly
quotations from local residents who are
not owners of private cars, have decided
to allocate a limited number of rooms
for this purpose, and now beg to an-
nounce the following inclusive rates:

Two (2) persons occupying one
double room with private bath, cover-
ing attendance, meals (which may be
taken either at the Repulse Bay
Hotel or at the Hongkong Hotel
Main Dining Room) and transpor-
tation, i.e. one trip in and out each day
during specified hours (excluding
Sundays and Public Holidays) \$3.00.
per month for two persons.

Four (4) persons occupying two
double rooms with private baths,
covering attendance, meals (which
may be taken either at the Repulse
Bay Hotel or at the Hongkong Hotel
Main Dining Room) and transpor-
tation, i.e. one trip in and out each day
during specified hours (excluding
Sundays and Public Holidays) \$4.50.
per month for two persons.

The difference in rates above
quoted is explained as follows:—The
rate of \$3.00.—is for two persons in one
car, and the second quotation of \$4.50.—
covers cases where four persons are
prepared to share one car for trans-
portation.

No extra charge to residents will be
made in connection with the regular
Tea and Dinner Danzants or entertain-
ments held at the Repulse Bay Hotel.

Monthly residents will also be
entitled to the free use of the individual
bathing tents on the beach.
For further information apply in
writing to the undersigned.

HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LTD.
J. H. TAGGART,
Manager.
Hongkong, May 19, 1921.

THE "STAR" FERRY CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
the TWENTY-THIRD ORDINARY AN-
NUAL MEETING of this Company will
be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine,
Matheson & Co., Ltd., on WEDNESDAY,
the 1st June, 1921, at 2.30 p.m., for the
purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors
together with a Statement of Accounts
to April 30th, 1921.
The REGISTER of SHARES of the Com-
pany will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY,
the 25th May, 1921, to WEDNESDAY, the
1st June, 1921, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board of Directors.
W. S. BROWN, Secretary.
Hongkong, May 20, 1921.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
we have this DAY appointed
CHARLES E. RICHARDSON our
Hongkong Agent. Mr. RICHARDSON
will handle all matters pertaining to
U. S. Shipping Board vessels oper-
ated by FRANK WATERHOUSE & COM-
PANY, calling at Hongkong.
H. W. BURCHARD,
Local Manager.
Hongkong, May 23, 1921.

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W. S. BROWN, Secretary.
Hongkong, May 20, 1921.

THE STAR FERRY CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

INTIMATIONS

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

Proposal To Change Steamer's Name.

I, H. M. H. NEMAZEE of Hong-
kong, hereby give notice that in con-
sequence of an undertaking to that
effect in the Bill of Sale and for the
sake of uniformity in the names of
the steamers of my fleet I have applied
to the Board of Trade, under Section
47 of The Merchant Shipping Act
1894 in respect of the ship "BURRUM-
BEET" of Hongkong Official No.
91,487 of gross tonnage 2420 tons
register tonnage 1561 tons heretofore
and at present owned by myself for
permission to change her name to
"BALISTAN" and to have her
registered in the new name at the
port of Hongkong, as owned by my-
self.

Any objections to the proposed
change of name must be sent to the
Registrar of Shipping at Hongkong
within seven days from the appear-
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Dated at Hongkong this 20th day
of May, 1921.

(Signed) H. M. H. NEMAZEE.

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to the Board of Trade, under Section
47 of The Merchant Shipping Act
1894 in respect of the ship "MAU-
SANG" of Hongkong Official No.
72,868 of gross tonnage 2194 tons
register tonnage 1673 tons heretofore
and at present owned by myself for
permission to change her name to
"MAJARIATAN" and to have her
registered in the new name at the
port of Hongkong, as owned by my-
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47 of The Merchant Shipping Act
1894 in respect of the ship
"INNAMINCKA" of Hongkong
Official No. 94,930 of gross tonnage
2474 tons register tonnage 1325 tons
heretofore and at present owned by
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47 of The Merchant Shipping Act
1894 in respect of the ship
"RUPARA" of Hongkong Official
No. 123,662 of gross tonnage 1568 tons
register tonnage 791 tons heretofore
and at present owned by myself for
permission to change her name to
"RIGESTAN" and to have her
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port of Hongkong, as owned by my-
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to the Board of Trade, under Section
47 of The Merchant Shipping Act
1894 in respect of the ship "ALL-
INGA" of Hongkong Official No.
103,578 of gross tonnage 2242 tons
register tonnage 1406 tons heretofore
and at present owned by myself for
permission to change her name to
"LORESTAN" and to have her
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INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI

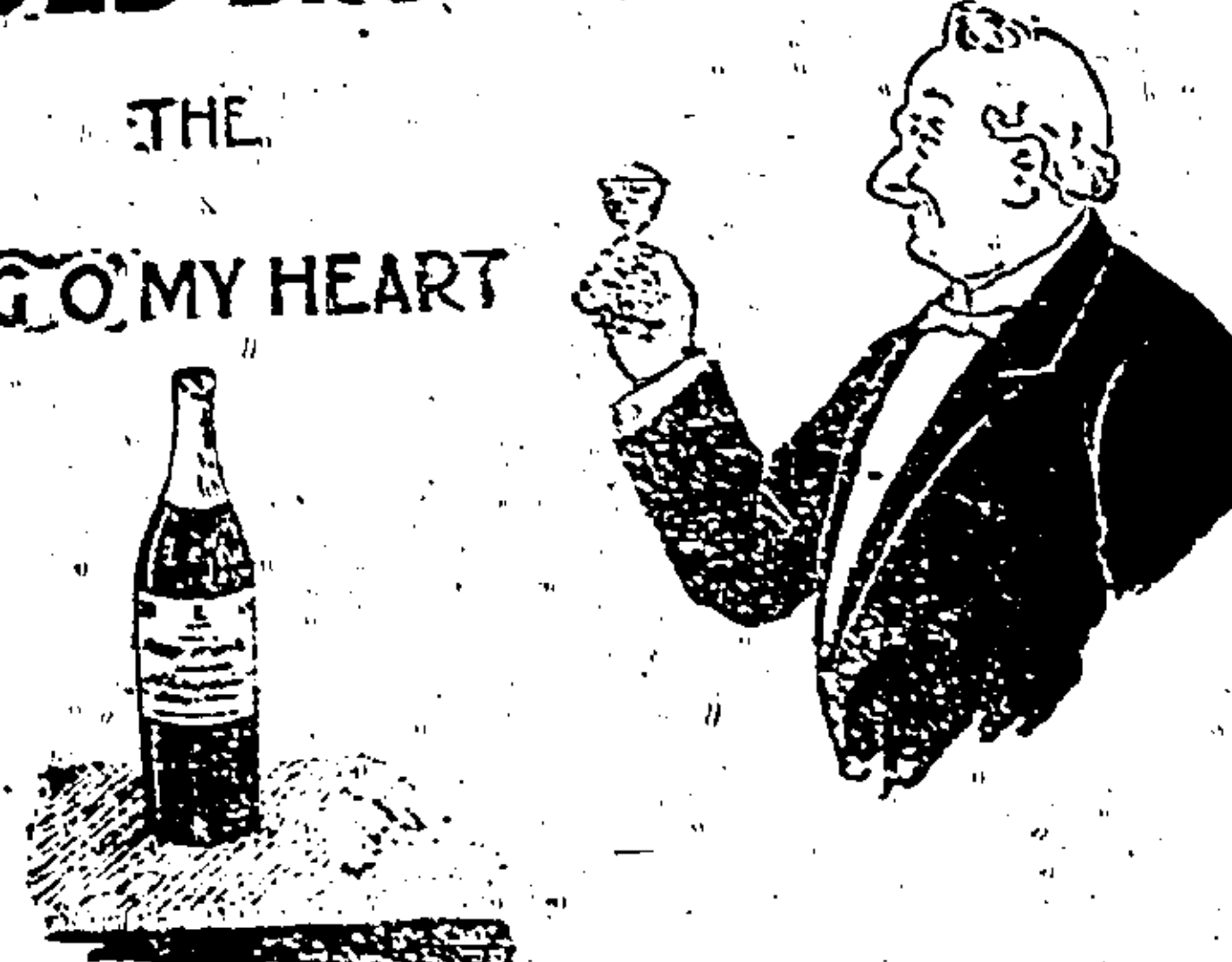
BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
an EXTRAORDINARY MEET-
ING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the
HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION will be held at the CITY
HALL, Hongkong, on SATURDAY,
the 28th day of May, 1921, at NOON,
for the purpose of considering and if
thought fit of passing the following
resolutions:—

1. That the Directors of the Hongkong
& Shanghai Banking Corporation
be and they are hereby requested
and authorized by and on behalf
of the shareholders of the Com-
pany to take the steps necessary
for the introduction of an Ordinance
into the Legislative Council of
the Colony of Hongkong and for
the enactment of the same by the
Governor of Hongkong with the
advice and consent of the
Legislative Council thereof to effect
the amendments necessary to the
Ordinances under which the Com-
pany is incorporated and carrying
on business so as to allow of the
capital of the Company being
from time to time increased from
20 millions of dollars the present
authorized capital of the Company
to 50 millions of dollars.

2. That the Capital of the Hongkong
& Shanghai Banking Corporation
be forthwith increased from
\$15,00

WATSON
E
OLD BROWN BRANDY
THE
PEG O' MY HEART



A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
HONGKONG.

Wm. Powell Ltd.
TELEPHONE 346
JUST RECEIVED.
A CONSIGNMENT OF
**LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S
BATHING SUITS**
ALSO
BATHING CAPS.
NEW STOCKS OF
TOWELS
FOR
BATHING PICNICS.

CAR OWNERS.

Prolong the life of your Car by keeping it in condition. Inspection monthly by an Expert Motor Engineer will cut your Repair Bill down and save you Expense, Time, Trouble and Annoyance.

For particulars apply to

E. MOW FUNG,

F. W. D. Automotive Service Department,
60, Des Vaux Road Central.

DEATHS.

BURKHARDT.—On May 13, 1921, at Shanghai, Annie Claudia, the beloved wife of L. R. Burkhardt, aged 65 years.

BOOKLESS.—In England, Janet Bookless, the dearly beloved wife of Archibald Bookless, Ningpo. (By cable).

The China Mail.

"TRUTH, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE."

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1921.

WHAT IS SCIENCE?

Professor Ray Lankester points out in the *Times*, what has been frequently noted before, the common misuse of the terms science, scientific, and scientist. There are no subjects which are specially scientific. Professor Clifford has said very truly that "the subject of science is the human universe; that is to say, everything that is, or has been, or may be related to man." Our Saturday contributor quite soundly jeered at the *Times* "scientific correspondent." All correspondents should be "scientific," since science is strictly speaking any item of knowledge which has been tested—conclusions the soundness of which can be demonstrated. All provable facts are science; undemonstrable guesses are not. An investigator on scientific lines (a "scientist") may sometimes expediently start with a hypothetical proposition, and the correct scientific procedure is then to employ every possible test to prove it untenable. When it endures all these tests, it becomes, summarily speaking, science. The "scientific" exactness of "science" is misleading.

age of any kind over us in some other, in, say, such a subject as spiritualism. Or alternatively, there is no "scientist" whose attainments entitle him to pontificate to the common man on subjects like time or space. As Professor Lankester puts it, "It is a common but altogether mistaken supposition that the discoverer in one branch of science is necessarily to be accepted as a specially valuable witness in regard to another branch." Professor Clifford tells us that where it may seem presumptuous to doubt and investigate, it is always still more presumptuous to profess belief without evidence.

We have taken notice of this timely letter owing to certain local comments that have reached us in connection with our alleged "presumptuous" attitude to the so-called "discovery" of Einstein, a discovery we have dared to denounce as one of the delusive conclusions of mathematics. Whether with Einstein's consent or not, the claim has been advanced that no one who is not an advanced mathematician, familiar with "gaussian" functions, can understand his propositions, much less query them. That is unscientific, and tends to set up a priesthood of science, in which the truly scientific mind may not acquiesce. It is also untrue, since his conclusions are pronounced, not in abstruse mathematical formulae, but in words.

Writing for ordinary men, we debated some of them in simple language on May 14th, and have thereby incurred the censure of thoughtless men who argue *ad hominem*, or rather to the name, that what an eminent "scientist" declared should not be questioned or doubted by the obscure. Inconsistently enough, such men will accept more willingly the testimony of the obscure in defence of an eminent man's postulates, than they will the testimony of obscure sceptics. We saw lately a definition given to an interviewer by Prof. Einstein himself. "This was extensively reprinted, and offered no clue to the identity of the interviewer," nor any hint of his qualifications. That these latter were non-existent may be deduced from his extraordinary assertion that "someone discovered the fourth dimension and no one living can demonstrate it." Apart from the frivolities of biquadratic equations, non-Euclidean geometry, a "fourth dimension" is as yet unconceivable by the human intellect. The fact that some eccentric mathematicians pretend to conceive an extra dimension for solids should not add to the reputation of maths, but should rather expose the weakness of its claim to be "pure" thinking.

So this unknown interviewer tells us that, "put plainly," Einstein's discovery is that "all dimensions as well as time are determined by motion." Put still more plainly, that means that motion may make thickness thicker or less thick. (Incidentally, this ignominious meant "conditioned" rather than "determined.") It means that motion can make length longer or shorter, and breadth broader or narrower.

Now think that over. It is, as we pointed out on May 4, mathematically possible to demonstrate that if an aviator could travel faster than the earth spins, he could fly back in time and watch William the Conqueror's landing in England, or Julius Caesar's navy mobilizing on the coast of France. Is it fair to repeat on the strength of that, that a "science" which can demonstrate such an absurdity is very far from pure thinking? It seems to us quite fair.

Einstein (according to this precious interviewer) "proved by plain figuring" that a clock placed upon the sun would register the hours in the ratio of four to three faster than a like clock on the earth, and that if a mile on earth were measured in relation with the speed of light, this same mile, if taken to the sun, would measure only three-fourths of a sun mile, as measured in the same relation. We are asked to believe that crazy mathematics have "rocked the scientific world," disproved Newton's law, and abolished Euclid.

But now—please attend carefully—grant that so far everything is true and "scientific." We still have to consider the application of the granted facts.

particles. We see Waterloo when light plays on it, but though sight depends on light, there is no particle of Waterloo in our eye. Waterloo stays there, where it was. No matter how fast light travels, it can only bathe a battle once, and that while the battle exists. The fond mother who trains to beat Light in the Einstein Marathon can never recapture that cute smile which her baby smiled one sunny day last year.

It follows from these mathematics of Einstein's (and indeed is so stated by the interviewer) that the past could be the future. "Speeds greater than that of light would escape any measurement in terms of time and run our history far into the future." Consider what that means. The baby's smile already mentioned is still to come. It did not happen. We may admit that the mother's fond memory could err, but no sane mind can think the past not past. Omnipotence itself cannot undo the eternal fact that what did happen has happened. Only "pure" mathematics can put the past into the future, or the future into the past. Incidentally, observe how refreshingly this interviewer cases us of the thought (conveyed by other expounds we noted) that time is a "dimension." Length can never be depth—our three respectable dimensions are constant. Einstein time is not.

A word about light: We gather from Dr. Newcomb that the "light particle" hypothesis is no longer entertained. It gave way to the "wave theory" [though waves without particles are unthinkable to the present writer] and the wave theory culminated in the "elastic solid theory," so named from the lines along which the mathematical investigation proceeded, and according to which light is a "transverse vibratory motion-propagated longitudinally through ether." A very unifying definition, which, by the substitution of water for ether, would as scientifically explain the nature of a tadpole. Clerk Maxwell's mathematics disclosed that theory, and we are now told that light is "identical with electromagnetic disturbances," which leaves us wise indeed. In spite of the great mass of "scientific" writings and figurings about light, we know nothing about it yet. All is hypothesis, and deduction from mathematics. Even the ether is hypothetical, and necessitated by the other hypotheses. Incidentally, it seems a little hard that Einstein, retaining apparently Newton's own corpuscular theory of light, should be advertised as making Newton a "back number."

SHIPPING DIAGRAMS.

The injured fly, with inkly feet essays to scale the picture on the wall. We watch it climb a few inches to the north-east, then slip, and drop an inch to the south-east. It releases another spasm of energy which takes it several inches higher, only to slip again. But the nett result of these energetic spurts and frequent slip is that it reaches the right hand top corner at last, leaving footprints to remind us of whatever we consider best worth remembering. If this were fact, rather than imagery, it would certainly remind us of "Table XXIV" in the annual report of our Harbour Office for 1920. This table, made up of coloured zigzags having an upward trend, shows in vivid fashion the tonnage entered at Hongkong since 1867. National pride draws our eye first to the "thin red line" which appropriately enough traces the course through the years of British tonnage.

How well we remember the apex of that significant red line, and the years when we boasted the top tonnage, 6,400,000 to 6,500,000, in 1904-5. It was then or soon thereafter that Hongkong claimed the highest annual tonnage of any port in the Empire, or was it in the world? No matter. 'Twas a great boast either way. After 1905 the red line sags, with a gallant spurt upwards in 1909, and another in 1914, down to 4,800,000 tons in 1918, after which it rockets to 5,748,403 tons last year, which is round about the average for 1906-12. Our old bugbear, German shipping, about which "patriotic" journalists used to write alarmist articles, is represented by a dotted black line, ending abruptly in 1914, which makes us wonder why it ever worried them, for its top tonnage was 1,300,000. A dotted red line shows the slump of Japanese tonnage to 2,251,629. The dizziest pinnacle is attained by the black line which indicates the maximum of all foreign trade tonnage entered here, British and foreign, junks and steam launches. That was in 1913, when 12,800,000 tons were recorded. Last year, after a bit of a slump in 1918, it stood at 11,634,591 tons.

FOR A LAME BACK.

WHEN you have pains in the back, bathe the parts with Chamberlain's Pain-Balm twice a day for five minutes at each application. Then dampen a piece of flannel slightly with the balm and rub it over the sore spot. For sale by all Chemists and Druggists.

-SPECIAL CABLES.**GOVERNOR'S ERRAND.****ALLEGED SECRET AGREEMENT.****PROTEST TO BRITISH MINISTER.****HOME GOVERNMENT'S CENSURE SOUGHT.**

[China Mail Special.]

SHANGHAI, May 23. The National organization Union of China has dispatched a letter to the British Minister at Peking protesting against the alleged secret agreement between the Governor of Hongkong and the Peking Government relative to the extension of Kowloon to cover Sheklung and British assistance for Kwangsi against Kwangtung. The letter urges representations to the Home Government to censure the Governor.

ANDERSEN MEYER.**MOTOR CAR INTERESTS BOUGHT.**

[China Mail Special.]

SHANGHAI, May 24. Mr. Edward Ezra, who is controlling the China Motors Limited, has purchased the entire motor car interests of Andersen Meyer and Co. in China.

ATTEMPTED BRIBERY.**SENSATIONAL REVELATION.**

[China Mail Special.]

SHANGHAI, May 24. A sensational revelation was made in the Mixed Court of attempted bribery of Tls. 5,000 of the British Assessor, Mr. Hutchinson, to secure the acquittal of a Chinese prisoner. This is the first instance of a direct attempt at bribe.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Football League will take place at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 30, at Victoria Barracks, immediately before the Association Meeting.

The total number of cases tried at the Hongkong Magistracy last year, was 15,304, which is the highest number recorded in the past ten years. The number of cases in 1919 was 12,998. The revenue amounted to \$103,132, compared with \$90,851 in 1919. This does not include the revenue of the Tai Po district. The expenditure was \$45,539.94.

A messenger employed at the offices of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment, yesterday, by Mr. Dyer Ball, for stealing a quantity of unused office stationery bearing the firm's heading. A marine dealer, who bought the paper (worth \$10) for 60 cents, was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment as a receiver.

In 1919 and 1920, the export of rabbit skins from China amounted to about 1,000,000 pieces. Rabbit skins come from Kueichow in Shensi and Chungking in Szechuan. About 1,500,000 pieces of rabbit skins are produced annually. The price is about 40 cents per piece. Recently, 50,000 pieces were exported to France. The ladies will have their ermines, observes the *N.C.D. News*.

Mr. Denman Fuller's last organ recital was given under extreme climatic conditions and in response to several requests he will repeat with some modification, the same programme next Monday at 8.15 p.m. (when Mrs. Bowes-Smith will again sing), since many who wished to go were prevented from attending by the weather on that occasion. The sum of about \$100 only is now needed and will free the Cathedral organ entirely from debt.

The arrest of four persons in Japan connected with an extensive counterfeiting ring is expected to result in the implication of a large number of bankers, engravers, printers and others in the scheme. The organization, which appears to have been wide, cashed counterfeit checks ranging in amount from \$300 to \$20,000 at banks in Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka and Nagoya at practically the same hour Monday last. Four of the leaders have been arrested in Shizuoka. A number of Tokyo and Yokohama banks were used.

The proposal for a Sino-Japanese corporation to establish a Tientsin Tobacco Company and calling for a loan of \$30,000,000 is one of the newest reports in northern financial circles. The capitalists behind the alleged venture are said to have demanded that half of this amount shall be put into the new firm and the other half shall be lent to the Central Government on condition that it shall issue loan bonds of short time duration to protect the lenders. The Government is considering the proposition, says the report, and the Diplomatic Corps is also said to have evinced a keen interest in it.

EMPIRE DAY.**LOCAL CELEBRATIONS.****SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES.**

As is customary and fitting Empire Day was observed to-day chiefly as a holiday for the children—as an occasion for impressing upon the rising generation the responsibility of clean living and straight going that membership of the British race has imposed upon them. Government offices were closed throughout the day and some of the business houses observed a half holiday this afternoon.

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

ADDRESS BY REV. G. W. B. STATT R.N.

More than 500 girl guides and boy scouts attended the customary Empire Day service for children that was held at St. John's Cathedral at 9 o'clock this morning. His Excellency the Governor (Sir R. E. Stubbs K.C.M.G.) attended by Mr. Burlingham A.D.C., was present and the Colonial Secretary (Hon. Dr. Claud Severn C.M.G.) and director of Education (Mr. E. A. Irving) were also among the congregation.

After appropriate hymns, which included Kipling's "Land of our Birth" had been sung and inspiring prayers offered up an inspiring address was delivered by the Rev. Gordon W. B. Statt R.N. He told the children that they were all gathered together to think and to learn something about patriotism and to see what it meant for the greatest Empire the world had ever known. What did we mean by the word "patriotism"? The sailor and the soldier would tell them that it meant "doing their bit and an Encyclopedia which he had consulted described it as "the feeling which moves a person to identify his own interest with interest of the social group to which he belongs and to speak and act accordingly." They had reason to be proud of their Empire but they had to remember that the secret of its greatness depended not only upon what it had but also upon what it was. Territory and numerical superiority did not matter in the least but character did matter, the whole of the time.

During the great war, proceeded the preacher, it had been wonderful to see the way our colonies came to the call of the motherland. They could almost put themselves on the back with pride at the knowledge that wherever the British flag had been planted there the Britisher had always been looked up to. North, South, East or West, all over the world wherever the Union Jack flew it stood for fair play, truth, justice and piety.

With the aid of special bunting the Rev. Mr. Statt explained to the children how the Union Jack was made up of five separate crosses. The cross, he said, meant sacrifice and love and was symbolic of the death of Our Lord who gave his life for us to teach us that we ought to give our life for each other. Then there were the three colours—red for the blood that was "thicker than water" and for sacrifice, white, for the spotless purity which ought to mark the life of every true Britisher and blue for blue stream that knit us altogether in one united Empire.

The same truth, justice, piety, devotion and sacrifice were expected of everyone just as much now during peace time as they were during the war. "Let us see," the preacher said in conclusion "that we each go forth to do our bit and build up the Empire. The Empire will only become greater if we strengthen our characters by practising self-control and keeping our bodies in subjection under us so that we may prove worthy members of the greatest Empire the world has ever seen."

The service closed with the pronouncing of a Benediction by His Lordship the Bishop of Victoria and the singing of Kipling's Recessional "Let Us Forget" and the National Anthem.

THE R. C. CATHEDRAL.**CHILDREN'S SERVICE.**

At the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the annual commemorative service for the children of the Catholic Schools was held at 9 a.m. preceded by Holy Mass, at which there was a large attendance, including many adults.

His Lordship, Bishop Pozzoni officiated at the special service assisted by the Clergy and the Students of the Cathedral Seminary.

The following schools participated: St. Joseph's College, Garrison School, Italian Convent, French Convent, St. Francis School, St. Mary's School, St. Lewis Industrial School, Hungnam Chinese School, Aberdeen Chinese School, Kai Lap Chinese School, To Ying School and Wah Yee School.

The Boy Scouts of St. Joseph's College were in attendance in Church Parade order under Scoutmaster Gutierrez and Assistant Scoutmasters Wilkinson and Baptista.

Lieut. Col. R. J. Bowen, A.P.D., Local Commissioner of Scouts was also present. After the Pontifical, the Bishop, in the course of an address to the children said: Here we are again this

CANTON AND HONGKONG.**HONGKONG GOVERNOR EXPRESSES REGRET FOR NOTIFICATIONS.**

HE DENIES PERING VISIT CONNECTED WITH AFFAIRS OF KWANGTUNG.

Under these headlines, the *Canton Times* says—

It may be remembered that recently on the occasion of the inauguration of Dr. Sun as President of the Republic of China, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs of the Hongkong Government issued two notifications one forbidding the Chinese at Hongkong to hold celebrations and one warning the Chinese there not to raise subscriptions for funds for the President. The matter was energetically taken up by the Republican Government with the British Consul-General here. We learn from an authoritative source that the British Consul-General has now replied to the effect that the Governor of Hongkong has informed him that the notifications were issued during his absence and are couched in terms which he would not have sanctioned and does not approve; and he expresses regret that they should have been used. He adds, however, that these observations relate only to the wording of the notifications and not to the principles involved.

In the same communication the Governor assures the Chinese authorities of the groundlessness of the recent rumours that British ships of war supplied arms to the Kwangsi forces and that his visit to Peking was in any way connected with the affairs of Kwangtung.

CORRESPONDENCE.**SCOUTEX IRRITANTS.**

[To the Editor of the "China Mail."]

Sir,—I should wish to draw attention to a regrettable lapse of duty on the part of the Sanitary Board who, I understand, are the authorities responsible for the destruction of the breeding-places of harmful insects.

For some months past a Colony (I can hardly call it a nest) of Scouts or some kindred species has been making hideous from 6 a.m. onwards near my house. So far as a gin-jaded ear can tell me they have their habitat slightly to the East of the University, in the waste ground of the Lytton Road level. It is not so much the communal habits of these creatures (horrible as they are to a life-long Tory) which have prompted me to write to you, as the infernal din each morning, resembling nothing so much as the blare of badly-blown bugles. My wife has more than once been compelled to attribute to this cause the dreams of a German invasion of the Colony which mar the otherwise undisturbed sleep of a blameless life.

I am convinced that it is only necessary to bring the matter thus to the notice of the readers of your valuable journal to cause the immediate despatch to the breeding-ground of an adequate Sanitary squad armed with a supply of suitable disinfectants.

Thus may we and our neighbours sleep in peace.

Yours faithfully,

XENOS.

Hongkong, May 20, 1921.

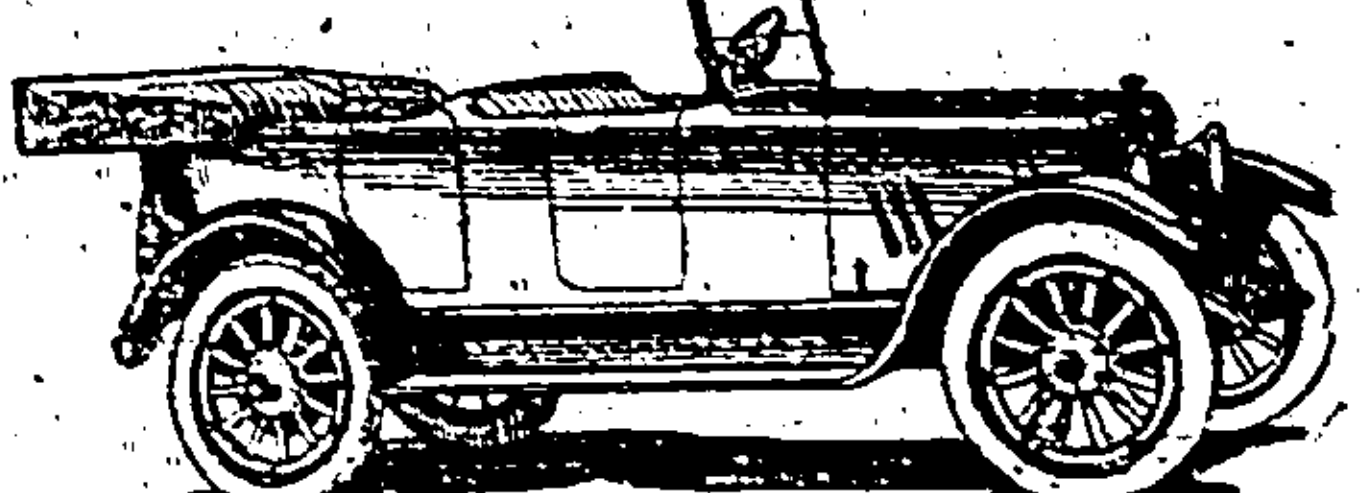
On account of the poor light given by the Electric Light Company in the Heungshan district, the people met and decided to boycott the company by using kerosene lamps. A petition was also drawn up asking the authorities of the district to order the Electric Company to improve its power plant and furnish better lights both to the consumers and the city.

year in the House of God to celebrate Empire Day. We are here again to thank God for having established the British Empire, for having made it and kept it flourishing till now, and for having in His Divine Providence used it as an instrument for the propagation of Christianity all over the world. It is true that Christianity under the British flag has not been propagated in the pure form its founder Jesus Christ ordained, but the Catholic Church, also has always been allowed to teach her doctrine freely, in the past and in the present, wherever the British flag has been hoisted. The address was followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and the service was brought to a close by the singing of "God Save the King" the congregation standing.

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HARRISON ROAD, 1383
WEST POST OFFICE 1543
WALK SHOP 232



ODDS AND ENDS.

MAINLY SCISSORS LOOT.

15 Million Years Old

Shells declared to be fifteen million years old have been discovered in the marl pits of Marlton, New Jersey, by Prof. John H. Ruckman, Federal geologist and engineer. The discovery, it is said, gives Marlton the greatest range of such specimens in the world, extending from the period when shellfish represented the only animate-life until the epoch which probably directly preceded the appearance of man. Giant lizards and huge animals long extinct are among the specimens which have been unearthed from marl deposits in this district. The most recent discoveries of Prof. Ruckman, it is said, upset the calculations of the age of the marl deposits in New Jersey, and are believed to be the oldest remains of prehistoric life on earth.

Floating Tank.

One of Lord Fisher's visions of the immediate future has been materialised by M. Foligno, the inventor of the sea-tank. Constructed by the French Government, an experimental machine carrying six passengers lumbered over the foreshore at Marseilles, and nosed into the water, and walked under the waters of the Mediterranean. In ordinary naval warfare it is difficult to foresee much of a future for this monster; a submarine can accomplish all and vastly more than any sea tank. But in amphibious military operations she might be useful. Had we possessed such a machine in 1917, there can be little question that the attack upon Ostend which was planned by the Tank Corps would have come off. This enterprise was finally abandoned on account of the insuperable difficulties of landing thirty-ton structures on the beach under hurricane fire.

The rather complicated machinery of the League of Nations is getting into motion on the subject of disarmament. The Geneva Assembly urged the Council to set up a temporary commission to do the spadework—to go into the whole question and to prepare definite proposals. The temporary commission is to work with the permanent commission on naval and military questions, which is chiefly concerned with the private manufacture of munitions. This temporary commission is now being formed. Six members of the International Labour Bureau—three employers and three workmen—are about to be appointed, and the other members, who will be selected by the Council of the League, are to be chiefly persons of recognised competence in political, social, and economic matters. The British members of the international Labour organisation are Sir Alan Smith for the employers and Mr. Stuart Bunting for the workpeople. There is the prospect of a practical scheme as the outcome, which will be the chief business at the next Assembly in the autumn.

Other Views on Prohibition.

Every now and again we are told how enthusiastic the great mass of American opinion is on the subject of prohibition, but such assurance is generally followed by pretty conclusive evidence to the contrary. One rather amusing protest against it was put forward by the workmen of the yard which recently launched the steamer "Swisscout," which was christened in water in strict accordance with the law. After the ceremony the workers' organisation solemnly handed a resolution to the managers couched in the following terms: "Resolved—That no part of the ship be referred to as the saloon, for the reason that such reference might raise false hopes. That all bars be removed from harbour entrances, or else designated by some other name. That the word port be expunged from navigation charts and references. Violent exception seems to have been taken in some quarters to this resolution, which was fully appreciated by everybody else.

A 5,500-Miles Telephone.

American ascendancy in telephony is completely established by a conversation held over a total distance of 5,561 miles. Through the consecutive media of deep-sea cable, the land wires of the United States, and a final section of wireless telephony, speech was transmitted with perfect clarity between Cuba and the island of Catalina, which lies 22 miles off Los Angeles, on the western side of the American Continent. From the Cuban responsible for this feat, Col. John J. Carey, people are expected to hold "long-distance" conversations in this country with the United States by a similar

GENERAL ITEMS.

The Prince of Wales's Fund for the Boy Scouts' Association now amounts to £56,794.

The German ex-Crown Prince, it is reported, is to become a director of a Hamburg timber firm.

Thousands of lunatics are carrying on business successfully, said a doctor at Chester Quarter Sessions.

A fire which destroyed 10,000 ammunition boxes at the national filling factory at Hereford is attributed to incendiaryism.

For charging 8d. for a boiled egg at their cafe, the National Provincial Cinematograph Company were fined £50 under the Profiteering Act at Hull.

By a bill which has been introduced in the French Chamber, it is proposed to make Paris a tourist centre, so that a special tax can be levied on all foreigners visiting the capital.

Working at the top of an 80-ft. chimney at the works of Messrs. Achille Serre, White Hart Lane, Hackney Wick, E. Charles Alley, 50, a steeplejack, fell and was killed.

"There has not been a dinner-time for the past twenty years that I have not been drunk," declared John Hunt, 34, a carter, when sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Liverpool.

The Earl of St. Germans, who was thrown from his horse at the Dartmoor Hunt point-to-point race meeting and crushed by the animal, is in a serious condition with three doctors in attendance.

The International Red Cross has been given a mandate, by its constituent national societies in session at Geneva, to intervene in civil wars, on the understanding that help is to be given impartially to the sufferers in both factions.

Following a survey in which the company's engineers examined the whole telegraph system of Peru, climbing the Andes to a height of 16,000 feet, the Marconi Company is to operate for 25 years the whole of Peru's postal, telegraphic, and wireless services.

Presiding at the first meeting of creditors of Farrow's Bank, the Official Receiver said he hoped that when the liquidation was concluded it would prove not to have been such a great disaster as it seemed at first. The Official Receiver was appointed liquidator.

Henry Morgan, Chorley's oldest postman, has retired after 42 years' service, during which time he has walked over 300,000 miles. He possessed remarkably good health, never being absent once from duty, and was never late. He has six good conduct stripes, and has received the King's long service medal.

"Two royal persons," whose names were not disclosed in the Bankruptcy Court were mentioned as creditors for £5,991 and £9,445 in the case of Mr. Henry William Birch and Mr. Wyndham Lindsay Birch, merchant bankers, who had traded at New Broad-street, E.C., under the style of Mildred Goyenache and Co.

An inquest was held at Acton on John Robert Payne, aged forty-two, a fish fryer, of Park-road North, Acton, who, after getting everything ready for frying one morning, collapsed and died in his kitchen. Dr. Clarke stated that the man's heart weighed 27oz., a normal heart being 12oz. A verdict of Death from natural causes was returned.

During a quarrel with her husband at Liverpool, Elizabeth Burnett is alleged to have stabbed him with a hairpin. Charged before the stipendiary, she was remanded, it being stated that the husband was in a dangerous condition. The pin, it was said, broke, and a piece of it was left in his heart. The woman declared that she did not know the pin penetrated the body.

ing the deep-sea and wireless sections conversations could be heard with exactly the same clearness: over 10,000 miles of land wires. Col. Carey also suggestively reminds us—as a scattered German Empire—that, after all, cables merely connect places and that the intimacy of communication making for real understanding is bound up in the telephone, which connects people and things.

TO-DAY'S CABLE.

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

FIGHTING IN UPPER SILESIA.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE EVOKES STERN ALLIED WARNING.

INSURGENTS RESISTING DESPERATELY.

LONDON, May 24.

The fighting in Upper Silesia mentioned on Monday was apparently organised on a large scale according to messages from French sources which state that the German offensive was developing in three directions. The attack near the Oder had as its objective Grossestein which was occupied after a fierce struggle. A column 20,000 strong with armoured trains operating on the Kreuzberg-Rosenberg railway was aiming at the industrial region of the Polish frontier, while a third from Ratibor had Gliwice as its objective. The insurgents everywhere were resisting desperately.

French diplomatic circles are excited at the foregoing occurrences. It is understood from Paris messages that the German Ambassadors in Paris and London have been requested to warn the Imperial Government immediately to cease aggressive movements if allied reprisals are not desired.

FRENCH PRESS STILL BITTER.

LONDON, May 23.

The bitterness of the French Press on the Upper Silesian question shows no signs of abatement. While believing in Herr Wirth's sincerity, the newspapers express the opinion that Herr Wirth is powerless against police and military complicity. They complain that Mr. Lloyd George refrained from supporting the French representations in Berlin. On the other hand, authoritative circles in London were surprised at the passage in this connection in M. Briand's note telegraphed yesterday. While it is emphasised that unauthorised incursions of volunteers into the plebiscite areas should be prevented, it is pointed out that Lord D'Abernon has several times already approached the German Government with completely successful results.

DAVIS CUP TENNIS.

BRITAIN BEATS SPAIN IN FIRST ROUNDS.

LONDON, May 23.

At Hendon in the Davis Cup first half singles, Lycett (Britain) beat Manuel Alfonso (Spain) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; and Gordon Lowe (Britain) beat Count Gomar (Spain) 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, 6-0.

YAP ISLAND DISPUTE.

SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARDS SETTLEMENT.

WASHINGTON, May 23.

Authoritative quarters intimate that the Yap controversy is developing satisfactorily and progress is being made towards a settlement.

HONGKONG SHIPPING.

LAST YEAR'S RETURNS.

SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS.

The Harbour Master's Report for the year 1920, just issued, shows that the total of the shipping entering and clearing at ports in the Colony during the year 1920 amounted to 683,497 vessels of 40,122,527 tons, which, compared with the figures of 1919 shows an increase of 34,329 vessels with an increase of 4,507,353 tons.

	1919	1920	1919	1920
British Ocean-going Ships	92%	90%	324%	343%
Foreign Ocean-going Ships	10%	10%	35%	38%
British River Steamers	102	112	134	135
Foreign River Steamers	4	4	29	24
Steam Launches (under 60 tons)	119	116	08	07
Trading Junks (over 40 tons)	504	504	123	108
	1009	1009	1009	1009

N.B.—The movements of Fishing Junks are not included in this table. The actual number of individual ocean-going vessels of European construction during the year 1920 was 927 of which 330 were British and 597 Foreign. In 1919 the corresponding figures were 957 of which 301 were British and 656 Foreign.

These 927 ships measured 2,522,888 tons. They entered 4,807 times and gave a collective tonnage of 3,801,620 tons.

Thus 30 more ships entered 232 more times and gave a collective tonnage greater by 1,558,931 tons—an average of 67,195 tons per entry.

A table shows an increase in British ocean-going shipping of 308 ships or 7.9 per cent. and an increase of 1,509,060 tons or 22.0 per cent. This is due to vessels, which were under Government control being released, newly-built ships and Enemy ships which were sold or transferred to British ship owners being put on the Eastern trade.

The gross Revenue collected by the Harbour Department during the year was \$701,493.26 as against \$633,794.25 collected in the previous year showing an increase of \$67,699.01. The total is made up as follows:

	1920
Light Dues	\$ 94,225.44
Light Dues, Special	102,609.67
Assessment of Licences and Internal Revenue	152,139.46
Excise of Coal and Oil	322,459.72
Miscellaneous Receipts	19,070.00
Total	\$701,493.26

Of vessels of European construction 4,807 ocean steamers, 3,441 river steamers and 2,498 steamships not exceeding 60 tons, entered during the year giving a daily average of 29.4 ships as compared with 29.1 ships in 1919 and 27.3 in 1918.

The average tonnage of individual ocean vessels entering the port has increased from 1,583.1 tons to 1,831.0 tons, that of British ships has increased from 1,722.6 to 2,002.3 while that of foreign ships has also increased from 1,449.2 tons to 1,699.2 tons. The average tonnage of individual river steamers entering during the year has decreased from 448.8 tons to 425.8 tons. That of British river steamers has decreased from 529.8 tons to 516.1 tons, and that of Foreign River Steamers has decreased from 336.6 tons to 324.3 tons.

In steamships not exceeding 60 tons employed in foreign trade there is a decrease of 7 ships with an increase in tonnage of 5,559 tons or 0.1 per cent in numbers and 3.4 per cent in tonnage. The increase is most prominent in vessels trading to Macao due to the steam launches "Hauhoi" and "Ochai" running regularly for the best part of the year.

Junks in foreign trade show an increase of 1,156 vessels and an increase of 20,750 tons or 5.6 per cent in numbers and 0.8 per cent in tonnage. This is due to more junks of smaller tonnage visiting this port.

In local trade, i.e. between places within the waters of the Colony, there is an increase in steam launches of 32,880 or an increase of 1,270, 246 tons or 5.6 per cent in numbers and 9.5 per cent in tonnage. This is due to the decreasing of coal, as a result of which launches which had been laid up were again employed.

Junks in local trade show an increase of 70 vessels and an increase of 115,219 tons or 0.3 per cent in numbers and 9.8 per cent in tonnage. This is due to a great number of junks being employed on reclamation work.

GAP ROCK LIGHTHOUSE.

During 1920, 710 vessels

were reported by telegraph as passing this station and 140 were not reported owing to telegraphic communication being interrupted. 3,018 messages, including meteorological observations for the Observatory were sent and 445 messages were received.

Telegraphic communication was interrupted on 79 days during the year. There were 93 hours of fog and the fog-signal was fired 583 times. The fortnightly reliefs were delayed 12 times during the year owing to bad weather.

Having travelled about 30,000 miles since he left England last August, on what he called a mission of spiritual help, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle returned to London from Australia.

KINEMA NOTES.

CORONET THEATRE.

"THE THUNDERBOLT."

"The Thunderbolt" is the title of the interesting photoplay starring Katherine MacDonald and Thomas Meighan (of "Miracle Man" fame) which was shown to crowded houses at the Coronet yesterday. Katherine MacDonald is acknowledged to be one of the most beautiful women on the screen, she is undoubtedly a most capable actress. Her repressive attitudes are wonderfully appropriate for the role she is called upon to interpret, it being her duty to maintain a family pride. How better can that virtue be emphasized than through the employment of an admirable reserve? Thomas Meighan plays with remarkable depth and sincerity as Bruce Corbin. A masterly figure when in his right mind, he becomes pitifully weak during a severe thunder storm. The picture carries a wealth of dramatic highlights, and is splendidly interpreted by these two well known stars. Those who pay a visit to the Coronet will be repaid with a rare dramatic treat. In addition to the above, a good laugh is provided with a Snub Pollard comedy entitled, "Don't Weaken." A most interesting Coronet Review is also shown.

HONGKONG THEATRE.

The principal attraction at the Hongkong Theatre to-morrow will be Miss Daisy Harcourt, a clever comedienne, whose excellent entertainment has earned her great successes in Australia, India, Japan and the Philippines. Hongkong theatregoers are assured of an enjoyable entertainment. Included in this week's programme is a Jesse L. Lasky "Paramount" comedy-drama entitled, "Allen Souls," featuring Sessue Hayakawa, the famous Japanese screen star. The name of Hector Turnbull, the famous writer, is given as the author of the story, a good enough guarantee for any picture. Patrons are advised to book their seats early to avoid disappointment.

LATEST SHIPPING NEWS.

DEPARTURES.

The s.s. "Chumsang," Capt. Nicoll, sailed for Bangkok via Swatow at noon to-day with 1,023 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. "Japan," Capt. Munro, sailed for Calcutta via Singapore at 1 p.m. to-day with 1,400 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. "Prometheus," Captain Moller, sailed for Bangkok at 3 p.m. to-day with 800 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. "Gleniffer," Capt. Rodger, sailed for London via Bangkok at 3 p.m. to-day with 300 tons of general cargo.

CLEARANCES.

The s.s. "Taishun," Chinese, cleared to-day and will sail for Shanghai at 6 a.m. to-morrow.

The s.s. "Tanda," British, cleared to-day and will sail for Amoy and Kobe at 6 a.m. to-morrow.

The s.s. "Glenzie," Br., cleared to-day and will sail for Kobe via Shanghai at 8 a.m. to-morrow.

The s.s. "Taksang," Br., cleared to-day and will sail for Haiphong via Hongkong at 10 a.m. to-morrow.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

Old Course. Fan Ling.

THE above course will be CLOSED for play on 6th June, until further notice.

By Order of the Committee.

J. B. ROSS,

Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, May 23, 1921.

St. John's Cathedral

MONDAY,

May 30th,

at 9.15 p.m.

ORGAN RECITAL

Vocalist:

Mrs. A. M. Bower-Smith

NOTICES.

PATE DE FOIE GRAS

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PATE DE FOIE GRAS FROM STRASBOURG.

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G 8003—Here We Are Again

G 6064—I've Found Kelly

G 6005—Where the Crowd Goes

G 6006—Let's Have a Song

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SAILINGS.

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From Macao—daily at 8 p.m. (Sundays at 8 a.m.)
Excursion Sunday 22nd May, S.S. "SUI AN" leaves Hongkong 9 a.m. and returns from Macao at 4 p.m.
Excursion Empire Day 25th May, S.S. "SUI AN" leaves Hongkong 9 a.m. and returns from Macao at 4 p.m.

Further information may be obtained at the Company's Office, Hotel Mansions, or from Messrs. T. & S. Booking Agents, Hongkong.

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CANADA MARU Tuesday, 14th June.
ROMBAY & COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via Singapore.
INDO MARU Thursday, 24th May.
PEKING MARU Wednesday, 1st June.
BEI & BANGKOK VIA SAIGON & SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly service.
KISHU MARU Wednesday, 1st June.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to New Zealand and Pacific Islands.
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AFRICA MARU Wednesday, 25th May.
ALABAMA MARU Thursday, 18th June.
NEW YORK VIA SUEZ Wednesday, 25th May.
NEW ORLEANS VIA SUEZ Wednesday, 25th May.
JAPAN PORTS—Shanghai, Moji, Kobe and Yokohama.
HAYRE MARU Tuesday, 20th May.
KESLUNG VIA SWATOW & AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers and will arrive at and depart from the O.S.E. wharf near the Harbour Office.
KALIO MARU Sunday, 19th May.
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Telephone No. 2307. 114, Cross Street Central.

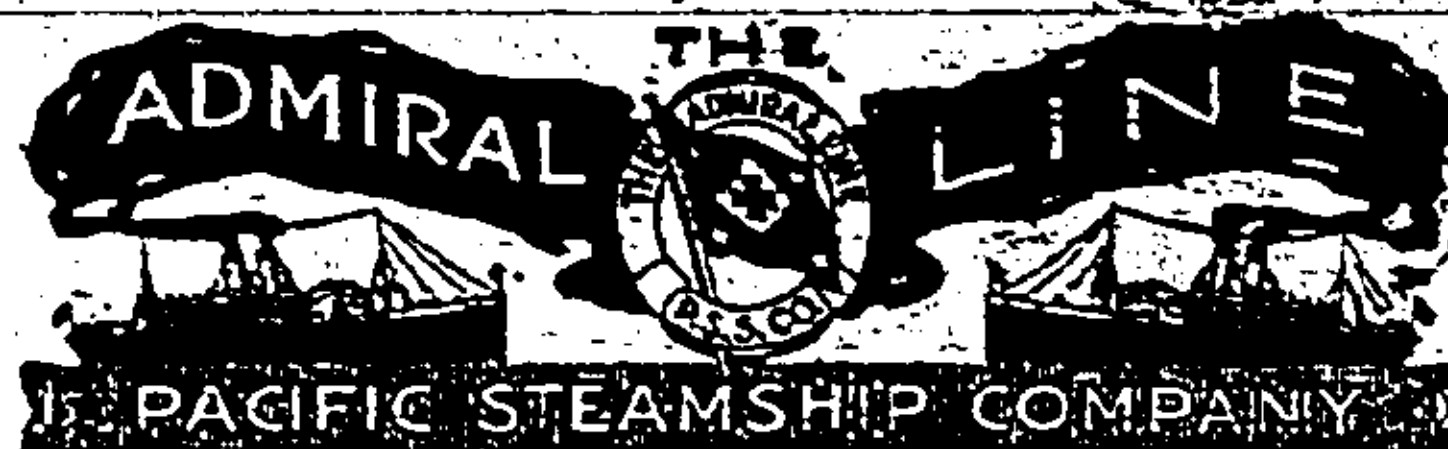
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SHANGHAI AND TIENTSIN May 25, at 4 p.m.
SWATOW AND RINGKOW May 25, at 4 p.m.
SEANGHAI AND FUKOW May 25, at 4 p.m.
SEANGHAI May 25, at 4 p.m.
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Empress of Russia	Aug. 3	Sept. 18
Empress of Japan	Aug. 18	Sept. 5
Empress of Korea	Sept. 20	Oct. 11
Empress of China	Sept. 15	Oct. 3
Empress of Russia	Oct. 12	Oct. 31

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EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail)

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

LONDON, May 23rd.
The first speeches of General Smuts and Mr. Hughes are given much prominence as heralding the approach of discussions in the Imperial Cabinet. Great significance is attached to the fact that Mr. Hughes has now circulated in Great Britain the full report of his speech in the House of Representatives on April 7th.

The Times is of the opinion that General Smuts' view is that the Empire's relations with Europe are inseparable with history and inconsistent with the elementary interests of England and the Empire. The journal declares that there never has been a tradition of avoidance of European entanglements, and points out that since Tudor times England has been forced to take a leading part in European politics as a mere matter of self-defence. It was in wars also fought as a European Power that most of the Empire was acquired, including territories which are now the South African Union. Isolation nowadays is more impossible than ever with the growing number and intimacy of necessary relations between civilised peoples.

The Daily Chronicle says that General Smuts' speech has all the breadth of outlook associated with his statesmanship. The journal agrees with General Smuts that the Anglo-Japanese Treaty must be viewed from the angle of Anglo-American co-operation, but as regards the European problem the journal declares that General Smuts shows a certain conflict of purpose, because it is well-nigh impossible for the British Empire to act as peace-maker between the French and the Germans and avoid Continental entanglements.

The Daily News says there is good reason for singling out the Anglo-Japanese Alliance for special consideration, because it opens up problems of naval defence and direction of foreign policy with which the Dominions are intimately concerned. The coming conference presents a great opportunity of solving the greater problem of which the Anglo-Japanese Alliance is only a part, namely, putting the relations of the Empire, America and Japan on a permanent basis of peace.

The Manchester Guardian says that General Smuts deals with the unusually complex and far-reaching task of confronting the Conference of the Dominions with the three chief items in the June agenda—the foreign policy of the empire, the renewal of the Japanese Alliance and imperial defence measures—are parts of a programme which demands clear and earnest thinking. General Smuts sums up the essentials of the Anglo-Japanese question in his plea for Imperial foreign outlook which may make possible Anglo-American co-operation against war, and for the continuance of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. The time is now ripe for a full and frank discussion of armaments by the three great remaining naval Powers. The earnest spirit in which the Dominions have approached the conference must reinforce the need of agreement on this question. All that is needed is a firm lead by one of the Powers concerned.

STANDARD OIL CO. AND DIAMOND FIELDS.

ROTTERDAM, May 23rd.
According to the Telegram, two representatives of the Standard Oil Company have arrived at the Hague with a view of obtaining a concession for one-half of the Djambi oil-field. They hope that the Dutch First Chamber will refer back to the Second Chamber the bill dealing with the subject and that the bill will be amended so as to give the Standard Oil Company equal opportunities.
It is pointed out that the proposed concessions, covering 34 million acres, so extensive, that the revenue of the Dutch State will be considerably increased if the oil-fields are competitively exploited by the Standard Oil and the Dutch companies, instead of the Royal Dutch alone.

CROWN PRINCE OF JAPAN.

THE HAGUE, May 23rd.
Prince Hirohito will visit Holland in the middle of June after visiting Paris and Brussels.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION INTO CANADA.

OTTAWA, May 23rd.
A bill designed further to restrict Chinese immigration has been introduced in the House of Commons. It requires Chinese merchant to undergo an examination by the Canadian Controller of Immigration.

SILESIAN IMBROGLIO.

LONDON, May 23rd.
Reuter is informed that the French Government's agreement to a meeting of the Supreme Council was unconditional. The British Government has informed the French Government that it was fully conscious of the need of sending British troops to Upper Silesia.
The French Government welcomed the suggestion. Therefore, it is probable that four British battalions, formerly in Upper Silesia, will shortly be despatched there again from the Army of Occupation.

PARIS, May 20th. (delayed).
The debate in the Chamber on foreign affairs opened with a speech by M. Tardieu, who criticized the work of the London Conference, because of the reduction in the German reparations debt. England has invited Mr. Briand to participate in the next Supreme Council to discuss the Upper Silesian problem. Mr. Briand would not answer definitely before the end of the actual debate in the Chamber.
The French Ambassador in Berlin has invited the Chancellor's attention to the fact that arms and ammunition are being sent to Upper Silesia and that German volunteers are entering Upper Silesia.

PARIS, May 20th. (delayed).
Mr. Briand has informed the English Government that he has accepted the invitation to the meeting of the Supreme Council, which will be held after the actual debate in the Chamber concerning the German foreign policy. The Council of Ambassadors examined this morning information from the Inter-Allied High Committee about the situation in Upper Silesia where disturbances seem to be continuing unchecked. —Zant.

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PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"FLASSY"	7,346	19th June	MASSILLON, LONDON & A'warp.
"DUNERA"	5,400	19th June	Singapore, Colombo & Bombay.
"DELTA"	8,000	25th June	MASSILLON, LONDON & A'warp.
"SYRIA"	7,000	25th July	MASSILLON, LONDON & A'warp.
"KALIAN"	8,000	5th Aug.	MASSILLON, LONDON & A'warp.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"JAPAN"	6,100	24th May at 1 p.m.	Calcutta, via Singapore, Penang and Rangoon.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"ST. ALBANS"	8,000	31st May	Sandwich, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne.
"EASTERN"	4,900	28th June	
"KAWONA"	7,000	13th July	

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"TANDA"	7,000	25th May at Noon	Amoy, Shanghai and Kobe.
"FLASSY"	7,346	31st May	Shanghai only.
"DELTA"	8,000	6th June	Shanghai only.
"DUNERA"	5,400	6th June	Shanghai only.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

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E. H. ING & CO.

LARGE STOCK OF SHIPBUILDING MATERIALS,
viz Steel Ship Plates, Angles and Bars.
Also Shipchandery Articles.

Telephone No. 1118. 25, Wing Wo Street, Central.

N. Y. K.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

SAILING FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

SEATTLE & VICTORIA OR VANCOUVER via Manila, Kailan, Shanghai & Japan ports.

Cargo to Overseas Points U.S. in connection with Great Northern, Northern Pacific, and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railways.
PUSHIMA MARU (omit Manila) ... Tuesday, 21st May, at 11 a.m.
KAIYU MARU ... Friday, 17th June, at 11 a.m.
KASUMA MARU (omit Manila) ... Tuesday, 19th July, at 11 a.m.

LONDON & ANTWERP via Singapore, Malacca, Penang, Colombo, Suez, Port Said & Marseilles.

IYO MARU ... Friday, 27th May, at 11 a.m.
ATSUTA MARU ... Friday, 10th June, at 11 a.m.

HAMBURG, MARSEILLES, LONDON & ROTTERDAM.

LIMA MARU ... Middle of June.
LIVERPOOL & MARSEILLES via Suez.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila, Zamboanga, Thursday Island, Townsville & Brisbane.

TANGO MARU ... Tuesday, 21st June, at 11 a.m.
NIKKO MARU ... Tuesday, 19th July, at 11 a.m.

NEW YORK via Panama.

TOBA MARU ... Middle of June.
SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS via Cape.

BOMBAY & COLOMBO via Singapore.

TAJIMA MARU ... Wednesday, 25th May.
CALCUTTA & RANGOON via Singapore & Penang.

NAGATO MARU ... Friday, 27th May.
MALACCA MARU ... Monday, 6th June.

JAPAN PORTS—Nagasaki, Kobe & Yokohama.

NIKKO MARU ... Friday, 17th June, at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI KUBE & YOKOHAMA.

MUROBAN MARU ... Thursday, 26th May.
KAGA MARU ... Friday, 27th May, at 11 a.m.
TOMIURA MARU ... Sunday, 28th May.

For further information apply to—

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

S. YASUDA, Manager.

Telephone No. 222.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVALS.

Per a.s. Tokyo Maru yesterday—

Mr. W. H. Gohriaki, Mr. and Mrs.

John W. A. Haxman, Mr. and Mrs.

C. M. Massell, Mr. and Mrs. E. B.

Osborn, Mrs. G. McKay, Mr. and Mrs.

C. H. Brown, Mr. Robert Gahlin, Mr.

A. R. Foulks, Mrs. W. L. Wilson, Mrs.

G. C. Hughes, Mr. Steele, Mr. F. T.

Small, Mr. S. C. Taylor, Mr. Ralph

E. Towle, Mr. E. G. Anderson, Mr. A.

Brostedt, Mrs. Betty Buttrick, Mr.

J. J. O'Brien, Mr. W. A. Clark, Mr. J. M.

de la Cruz, Mr. and Mrs. Burr D. Clive,

Mr. Lester J. Calendar, Mr. A. Frank-

lin, Mr. A. A. Freed, Mr. and Mrs. F.

G. Frink, Mr. and Mrs. L. Goldsmith,

Mr. Robert J. Harrison, Mr. C. H.

Hughes, Mrs. J. W. Harwood, Miss

Helen Harwood, Mr. G. Perry Irvine,

Mr. A. K. Isham, Mr. W. V. C.

Kaufeld, Mr. J. Levy, Mr. and Mrs.

V. Martin, Mrs. E. Marler, Mr. J. P.

Hutchinson, Mr. and Mrs. E. Matlock,

Mr. and Mrs. John Mason, Mr. and Mrs.

E. F. McConaha, Miss Mary Mc-

Carthy, Mr. Samuel P. Murphy, Mr.

Harry Pomeroy, Mr. Paul L.

Riggins, Mr. B. Rubio, Miss Shaw,

Mr. Manuel F. Tsoqui, Mr. and Mrs.

J. J. O'Brien, Mr. W. A. Clark, Mr. J. M.

de la Cruz, Mr. and Mrs. Burr D. Clive,

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G. Frink, Mr. and Mrs. L. Goldsmith,

Mr. Robert J. Harrison, Mr. C. H.

Hughes, Mrs. J. W. Harwood, Miss

Helen Harwood, Mr. G. Perry Irvine,

Mr. A. K. Isham, Mr. W. V. C.

Kaufeld, Mr. J. Levy, Mr. and Mrs.

DEPARTURES.

Per a.s. Tokyo Maru yesterday—

Mr. B. Veloso, Rev. B. Hayes, Miss

E. Haber, Miss A. Cole, Mr. A. E.

March, Mr. C. M. Peterson, Mrs. R.

Crotto, Miss F. Crotto, Mrs. R.

Crotto, Mrs. I. Crotto, Mrs. C. J.

Avefing, Mrs. G. Barchington, Mrs.

H. Hayes, Mr. R. O. M. Walsh, Mrs.

K. Byrne, Mrs. L. Russell, Mr. S. J.

Bartlett, Mr. N. J. Pettin, Mr. H. C.

Whitall, Mr. J. J. Byrne, Miss G.

Siewers, Miss J. I. Stevens, Mrs. J. W.

Mears, Miss R. Daniel, Miss R.

Quigley, Miss E. Moxham, Mr. R. E.

Manning, Gen. F. J. Korman, Mr. O.

Hall, Mr. D. C. H. Florence, Mrs.

L. C. Winters, Mr. and Mrs. F. Shiki,

Miss F. C. McLaughlin, Miss I. Mc-

Laughlin, Mr. H. V. Fink, Mr. J. T.

Esterbrook, Mr. and Mrs. H. H.

Evans, Mr. M. Lopez, Miss C. Lopez,

Mr. J. A. Siphoy, Mr. P. R. Kennedy,

Mr. O. Olsson, Mr. M. Geary, Mr. C.

Jakang, Mr. L. Javier, Mr. P. Reyes,

Mr. T. Dadda, Mr. A. M. Domingo,

Mr. J. Domoz.

MARKET PRODUCE IN HONGKONG.

APPROXIMATE RETAIL PRICES.

May 17th, 1921.

Butcher Meat.	Cts.	Poultry.	Cts.
Best Sibslo, -Mal Long Pa ...	20	Chicken, -Kai Tai ...	36
Prime Cut ...	21	Capone, Small, -Sin Kai ...	34
Corned, -Ham Ngai Yek ...	22	Capone, Large, -Sin Kai ...	38
Roast, -Shin ...	20	Duck, -Ap ...	22
Roast, -Ngai Nam ...	16	Doves, -Pan Kau ...	22
Roast, -Tong Yek ...	18	Eggs, Hen, -Kai Tai (cooking) per doz ...	33
Steak, -Ngai Yek Pa ...	20	Eggs, Hen, -Kai Tai (fresh) per doz ...	35
Steak Sibslo, -Ngai Lee ...	30	Fowls, Canton, -Kai ...	42
Sausages, -Ngai Cheung ...	25	Fowls, Hainan, -Hot Nam Kai ...	32
Saloon's, -Ngai No per set ...	10	Geese, -Nga ...	22
Tongue, fresh, -Ngai Lee each ...	50	Pigeons, Canton, -Fak Kap, each ...	40
Tongue, corned, -Ham Ngai Pa ...	14	Hothow, -Hot Nam Pak Kap ...	25
Head, -Ngai Tai, each ...	80	Turkeys, Cook, -Fo Kai Kung ...	70
Heart, -Ngai Sam, ...	12	Turkeys, Hen, -Fo Kai Na ...	65
Hump, Salt, -Ngai Kim ...	12	Sulph, -Sha Tai, ...	each
Feet, -Ngai Kung, each ...	10	Phasant, -Shan Kai, ...	each
Kidneys, -Ngai Yiu ...	9	Quail, -Om Chm ...	each
Ngai Mei ...	18	Partridges, -Cha Kn ...	each
Liver, -Ngai Kung ...	13		
Tripe (unwashed), Ngai To lb ...	5		
Aliver Head and Feet, -Ngai Tai ...	each 60 cents		
Mutton Chop, -Young Fat Kwai ...	33		
Lap, -Young Fat Kwai ...	33		
Shoulder, -Young Fat Kwai ...	28		
Saddle, -Young Fat Kwai ...	23		
Pig's Chittlings, -Chu Chong ...	23		
Brins, -Chu No per set ...	20		
Feet, -Chu Kung ...	15		
Fry, -Chu Chap ...	15		
Head, -Chu Tai ...	15		
Heart, -Chu Sam ...	each 10		
Kidneys, -Chu Yiu ...	each 10		
Liver, -Chu Kung ...	each 10		
Pork Chop, -Chu Fat Kwai ...	25		
Lap, -Chu Fat Kwai ...	30		
Loin, -Chu Fat Kwai ...	24		
Fat or Lard, -Chu Yiu ...	23		
Sheep's Head and Feet, -Young ...	each 60 cents		
Tau-Kung, ...	each 10		
Heart, -Young Fat Kwai ...	each 10		
Kidneys, -Young Fat Kwai ...	each 12		
Liver, -Young Fat Kwai ...	each 12		
Sucking Pig, to order, -Chu Tai ...	24		
Feet, -Chu Tai ...	19		
Mutton, -Shang Young Yiu ...	32		
Veal, -Ngai Tai Yiu ...	30		
Sausages, -Ngai Tai Chong ...	20		
No. 1 ...	lb. 23		

Fruits.

COMPANY REPORT.

PEAK TRAMWAYS CO., LTD.

The report of the Directors for the year ending April 30, 1921, for presentation to the shareholders at the ordinary annual general meeting of the Company, to be held at the Hongkong Hotel at noon on Tuesday, May 31, 1921, is as follows:—

The Net Profit for the twelve months, after deducting Directors' Fees and General Managers' Remuneration, amounts to—
To which has to be added the Balance brought forward from last account—
Making available for appropriation—

76,261.34
1,400.43
77,661.77

The Directors recommend that a Dividend at the rate of 10 per cent per annum be paid to Shareholders, absorbing \$30,000.00 that \$40,000.00 be transferred to Special Reserve Account, and that the Balance of \$7,661.77 be carried to a new Profit and Loss Account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. L. N. Lee having resigned, Mr. J. Bell-Irving was invited to occupy the vacant seat on the Board.
In accordance with Rule 73 of the Company's Articles of Association, Mr. J. Scott Harrison, the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. A. O. Lang, Mr. A. S. Gubbay and Mr. J. Bell-Irving retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

On Mr. A. R. Lowe leaving the Colony, Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, Chartered Accountants were appointed in his place, and Mr. Bernard Brown retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1921.

DEBIT.	
To Loss on Silver and Subsidiary Coins	119.63
Coals and Stores	17,833.26
Charges	4,642.38
Maintenance and Repairs	18,052.87
Rates, Crown Rent and Fire Insurance	2,338.00
Salaries and Wages	29,261.89
Office Rent and Clerks' Salaries	6,000.00
Directors' Fees	2,500.00
Remuneration to General Managers: 5% on gross earnings	8,269.96
Balance as per Balance Sheet	76,261.34
	\$165,399.33

CREDIT.	
By Traffic Receipts	\$136,417.60
Rents	698.00
Interest and Dividends	6,287.83
Transfer Fees	19.50
Profits on Investments realised	21,976.40
	\$165,399.33

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	
Authorised Capital \$750,000 divided into 75,000 shares of \$10 each	
Issued Capital \$25,000 shares fully paid up	\$250,000.00
Issued Capital 50,000 shares \$1.00 paid up	50,000.00
Reserve Fund as per last Account	70,000.00
Since added	10,000.00
	\$300,000.00
Unexpired Season Tickets	80,000.00
Unclaimed Dividends	4,709.46
Investment Fluctuation Account	4,120.55
Sundry Creditors	15,760.00
Profit and Loss Account Balance from last year	12,717.18
Profit for this year	\$ 1,400.43
	77,661.77
	\$ 494,968.96

ASSETS.	
Permanent Way and Concession Old Line as per last Account	\$200,000.00
Permanent Way New Line and Extension account as per last Account	\$31,510.29
Since added	720.00
	32,230.29
Stations, Crown Leaseholds and Buildings as per last a/c	49,964.93
Regrading Line	40,455.86
Rolling Stock	46,184.00
Office Furniture	500.00
Coals and Stores on hand	705.20
Sundry Debtors	51,265.59
Shares in Public Companies at market value	36,000.00
Cash in Bank	\$31,396.10
Cash and Comproadore orders in hand	5,266.99
	37,663.09
	\$494,968.96

C. P. CHATER, Directors.
A. S. GUBBAY, Directors.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

We report that we have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers and Securities, and obtained all the information and explanations required by us. In our opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs at April 30, 1921, according to the best of our information and the explanations given us, and as shown by the Books of the Company.

LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS, Chartered Accountants.
C. BERNARD BROWN, Auditors.

Hongkong, May 19, 1921.

"HONG MOH" TRAGEDY.

MARINE COURT FINDING.

A SHANGHAI COMMENT.

Shortly after the wreck of the "Hong Moh" on the Lammoeks, when there was a disastrous loss of life, we published a letter from Captain W. E. Kent on the subject of wireless, and the saving of life which might have been effected had all steamers on the China Coast been equipped with it, says the N. C. D. News. The Court of Inquiry held at Hongkong into this disaster has now issued its finding, and while we need not go into the technical details leading to the shipwreck, out of two points bearing on the subject of wireless are brought out and should be mentioned. We know that the str. "Shansi" closed the "Hong Moh" and rendered invaluable aid, for which she has been very properly complimented by the Court, but there after a different tale has to be told. When the "Hong Moh" stranded distress signals were sent up, and another steamer passing two or three miles away, signalled to her by Morse lamp. Unfortunately the oil

signal lamp of the "Hong Moh" was of insufficient power to reply and her dynamo was by this time out of action, so, receiving no reply, the unknown steamer proceeded on its course. Other steamers were sighted within the next critical 48 hours, but none closed the "Hong Moh," nor did the Court have any evidence that they sighted her. The Court, however, expresses the opinion that had vessels passing in the vicinity and in sight of the wreck previous to the "Shansi" arrival, closed the wreck and ascertained whether it was practicable to render assistance, and if not, reported by wireless telegraph or proceeded to the nearest port and reported the casualty, many more lives would probably have been saved. This entirely bears out Captain Kent's contention. Before the "Hong Moh" dynamo was put out of action, it would have been possible for her to send the necessary wireless messages which could have been repeated and amplified by other ships who were unable to render assistance themselves. It is a lesson to be remembered. In writing this note we must not omit another part of the finding which, however, does not deal with the subject under mention, namely highly complimentary reference to the work of H.M.S. "Caroline" and "Foxglove" and of Captain Grant.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Buster's Service to the China Mail.)

PEOPLE BURNED ALIVE.

ALEXANDRIA, May 23rd. A grave situation arose out of a rumour that a Greek had killed a native. The rumour led to the natives attacking the Greeks and other Europeans. It is reported many have been killed. The ambulances were busy throughout the night taking the wounded to hospital. Mobs smashed the shop windows. All places of business are closed. Europeans assembled at the Governorate and demanded protection or permission to protect themselves. Firing is now proceeding all round. Students and natives are attacking Europeans. Many places in the Lohian district have been burned. It is reported that people have been burned alive.

LATON. British troops have arrived and taken charge of the town. They were enthusiastically greeted by the Europeans. LATON. Five Europeans were killed and 75 wounded in the rioting.

LISBON REVOLUTION.

LONDON, May 23rd. Telegrams from Lisbon show that the Cabinet has resigned, owing to a peaceful revolution, which had no connection with the Royalists. It appears that the military concentrated and demanded the resignation. It is suggested as an explanation of the movement that it was to forestall a Radical move to appoint the Premier, Senhor Machado as President. Lisbon is quiet.

AMERICAN STEAMER RELOADED.

NEW YORK, May 23rd. The steamer *Panhandle State* has been reloaded.

STILLMAN DIVORCE CASE.

NEW YORK, May 23rd. The newspapers state that Mr. Stillman, the millionaire, has agreed to cease action for divorce, the settlement involving Mr. Stillman's recognition of the legitimacy of his son, Guy, and the payment to Mrs. Stillman of \$50,000 annually.

M. JOUHAUX.

PARIS, May 23rd. According to the *Gazette*, M. Jouhaux has resigned the Secretaryship of the General Confederation of Labour, and accepted the vice-presidency of the International Federation of Trades Unions of Amsterdam.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

SEASON 1920-21.

Following is the report of the Hon. Secretary to be submitted to the Association at the Eighth Annual General Meeting to be held at the R. G. A. Recreation Room, Victoria Barracks on Monday, May 30, 1921, at 5.30 p.m. Each Club is entitled to be represented by two Delegates and Official Referees are invited.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

I beg to submit the Eighth Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for your approval.

Referees.—Twenty qualified referees officiated during the season under review. Fifteen of these were examined orally and practically by the Referee's Board under the capable superintendence of Mr. G. T. May.

Finance.—Last Season, as will be seen from the accounts, we were privileged to remit a substantial subscription to St. Dunstan's Hostel, and also to make three grants to deserving Local Charities. The Association also co-operated with the South China Athletic Association in two Charity Matches, the proceeds from which did not go through our accounts. The first was played on 8th November 1920, and yielded the sum of \$1,752, the second, on 9th February, 1921, was productive of \$1,229.57. These magnificent sums were forwarded in their entirety to the Kwongtung and North China Famine Relief Funds.

Play.—Both First and Second Divisions of the League were keenly contested, the respective winners being the 2nd Wit's Regt. and St. Joseph's. Mid-way through the season, H.M.S. "Titanic" replaced H.M.S. "Caroline" in the First Division, and though out of the running, showed excellent form, later winning the Hongkong Challenge Shield in a most convincing manner. Grounds.—Last year at this time we were complaining bitterly of the lack of grounds. This has now been rectified. An excellent pitch has been opened at Sookumpoo Valley and four matches can now be accommodated within the Race Course. This enabled the 2nd Division to play Home and Away fixtures.

Hand books.—After three years, the Association's Official Handbook made its appearance and was greatly appreciated.

Interpret.—In spite of repeated efforts from this end, Shanghai P. A. has not yet taken any notice of our overtures. P. A.'s generous invitation has lately been received from Batavia and it may be found possible to send a team to Java before the commencement of next season.

SHIPPING.

AUSTRALIAN LINE.

NEW STEAMER FOR E. AND A. SERVICE.

For many years the shipping business between Australia and Java and Singapore has been served by well-established lines, such as the Burns, Philp and the Royal Dutch Packet, but recently, however, the Commonwealth Government Line of Steamers has decided to claim a share in this particular trade, and the satisfactory business it has secured so far has encouraged the Government to improve the service already inaugurated on the run. It was recently announced that the new steamer "Emilia," now in Melbourne awaiting commission, would be placed in the service, in addition to the "Dromana," "Dundola," and "Dilga." The "Dromana" was scheduled to leave Melbourne towards the close of last month, the "Emilia" will sail this month, while the "Dundola" will follow in June. In addition to calls at Sourabaya, Samarang and Batavia, the "Dromana" will call at Macassar, and the "Emilia" at Singapore.

It is interesting to note that the "Swakopmund," originally one of the German-Woermann Line, running between Hamburg and South African ports, has been secured by the E. & A. Line, and will be placed in that Line's service to the East in the near future. She is a vessel of 5,631 tons gross, and in addition to being a fine cargo carrier, has excellent passenger accommodation. She was used as a troop transport during the war.

MOTOR SHIP PROGRESS.

"During the past 12 months between 40 and 50 motor ships have been launched or completed, totalling between 400,000 and 500,000 tons deadweight. According to *The Motor Ship*, in spite of the shipbuilding depression and the cancellation of orders which, incidentally, affected motor ships less than steamers—there are now quite 50 per cent. more internal-combustion-engined vessels on order than was the case a year ago, the present number being well over 200. From a technical point of view the motor ship has progressed to an equal extent, so much so that 14,000-ton motor ships with machinery of over 6,000 h.p. are now turned out regularly as standard craft. The capacity for the production of large marine oil engines has increased enormously, especially in this country, and some firms which have long been famous in the shipbuilding world have gone over almost wholeheartedly to the construction of motor ships instead of steamers. During the year moreover, a commencement was made upon the conversion of existing steamers to motor ships."

ADVENTUROUS VOYAGE.

In a 10-ton auxiliary ketch two adventurous souls have set out to voyage from Fiji to Sydney, where they expect to arrive in six weeks time. They are Mr. L. E. Morriby, a planter in Navua, on Viti Levu, and Captain Dreyer, late of the steamer "Noorchar." Mr. Morriby, who owns the ketch, is a skilled and enthusiastic sailor; and he had the vessel built at Navua from his own plans.

It is intended to make the trip under sail, and the engine will be used only in emergency. The course will depend upon the wind. It is intended to make for Conway Reef and Cay, about 450 miles from Kadavu, thence to Norfolk Island, to Lord Howe Island, Middleton, and Elizabeth reefs thence to Sydney. The alternative route will be via Mathew and Hunter Islands, and on to Walpole Island and Sydney. A stay will be made at each port visited. The vessel is 33 feet long on the water line and 33 feet 6 inches over all, beam 10 feet, and draught 5 feet 6 inches. She has a raised deck, the engine being amidships, with the main cabin forward. There is a cabin aft, which will be used as a storeroom. She has sleeping bunks, and is equipped with a 16 h.p. Friaby engine. She is built of kauri with Australian spotted gum frames.

232,000 LOST ON A SHIP.

"Fruitless expenditure" is the heading to a section of the report on the appropriation account for Navy services for the year ended March 1920 by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. It refers to the purchase by the Ministry of Shipping in 1916 of the s.s. "Wirral," requisitioned for special Admiralty service. The ship was undergoing extensive repairs, and the contractors refused to release her until their account had been paid. An advance of 20,000 was paid to them by the Ministry of Shipping, and further payments, of more than £10,000, by the Admiralty for alterations made to their requirements. On completion the vessel was found to be unfit for service and the Ministry of Shipping, to avoid the cost of reconditioning, purchased the vessel for £12,500 and sold her by auction for £10,750.

A statement is given in detail of balances irrecoverable and claims abandoned for the year, the various items totalling approximately £97,505. They include the over-payment of £2,406 to three ministers of religion in respect of religious ministrations to naval men at Liverpool during the war.

U.S. SHIPPING BOARD LOSSES.

The New York correspondent of a contemporary cables that it is estimated the net loss in the operation of the United States Shipping Board at present exceeds \$250,000 per day, but President Harding is credited with the belief that this loss will be more than made good if a big American merchant marine can be firmly established. The difficulty is that Congress dislikes shipping subsidies, and it remains to be seen how the plea to Congress for additional help will be met. According to figures just published it is necessary, under the existing law, to employ 40 men on an American ship to do just the same work as is undertaken by 35 on an English ship. In the same instance the American wages account per month exceeds that of an English ship by \$150, and the question is whether traders, for the mere privilege of transporting goods by an American vessel will pay the extra cost. If the merchant will not pay Congress must, and it is uncertain whether public opinion is sufficiently imbued with the importance of a big American mercantile marine to support Congress.

GENERAL NOTES.

It has definitely been decided to launch the freighter "Cathay," the fourth vessel built by the Kiangnan Dock & Engineering Works, Shanghai, for the U. S. Shipping Board, on Thursday next.

According to advice received from Seattle by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the China Mail Steamship Company's withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Conference last month, has been followed by the withdrawal of the Netherlands-Java Steamship Company. It is said that three other large steamship companies working the Trans-Pacific service are also going to leave the Conference. The cause of the withdrawal is not publicly announced, but it is surmised that some companies have been cutting freight rates.

The gross profits of the Holland-American Line last year amounted to 18,883,488 florins (£1,575,000), as compared with 38,584,892 fl. (£3,215,000) in 1919. Gross profits for 1920 of the Royal Dutch Lloyd last year were 3,986,000 fl. (£332,200), and after writing off more than 2,000,000 fl. (£167,000), a dividend is to be paid of 8 cent as compared with 18 per cent. for the previous year. The book value of the passenger vessels, including those of the ex-German vessels, "Limbunga" and "Brabantia," the purchase of which is stated to have been recognised by the Allied Reparations Commission, is given as 270 fl. (£22,10s.) per ton; that of the newly delivered vessels 314 fl. (£26) per ton and that of the other cargo steamers 43 fl. (£3 11s. 8d.) per registered ton.

Which is the biggest of the Liverpool Shipping Companies? A return recently published by the members of the Liverpool Steamship Association shows that in the matter of tonnage the Blue Funnel Line leads the way, its 78 vessels having a gross tonnage of 540,691. The Company owning the largest number of ships (92) is the Ellerman with a gross tonnage of 405,000, and then in order come the White Star, 27 vessels, 321,154 gross tons; Furness Withy, 71 vessels, 306,877 gross tons; Lamport and Holt, 45 vessels, 282,721 gross tons; Harrison, 54 vessels, 275,735 gross tons; C.P.O.S. 23 vessels, 268,998 gross tons; Clan Line 51 vessels, 265,048 gross tons; Cunard, 22 vessels, 228,431 gross tons; and Brocklebank, 30 vessels, 203,860 gross tons.

The report telegraphed from Brussels of the arrival at Antwerp of the brand new Hansa liner "Stumfels" from Hamburg, in a resumed service of the Hansa line to India is one sign of the German shipping revival.

Another indication is apparently contained in statements from New York that two ex-Hansa steamers delivered to this country under the terms of the Peace Treaty, and acquired by a newly-formed British company, are being advertised to sail from there to New York under, it is reported, Hansa Line auspices. The manager of the Hansa Line in New York before the war was known to have again arrived there. Other indications are contained in an exhaustive review of German shipping in the *Borsen Zeitung*, in which it is stated that the agreement concluded between the German Government and German shipping companies for concentration and reconstruction has formed the basis for the re-establishment of Germany's shipping trade. Eighteen German steamship companies are now reported to be maintaining regular services from Hamburg. The Stinnes group of industrial firms is now especially prominent, while on the boards of the principal companies are various directors of banks and the shipbuilding and allied industries.

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SUPERSTITIONS.

GROUND-HOG DAY.

The woodchuck, or ground-hog, comes out of his hole on February 2. If he sees his shadow in the sun he goes back to his hibernation and there will be six weeks more of winter. Whereas if it is cloudy and he sees not his shadow he stays out and spring comes early.

This is a pet American superstition. The woodchuck is of the squirrel family and is peculiar to America. In Europe there is the same superstition with the substitution of some other hibernating animal. There is evidence that it was originally always some member of the squirrel family, probably the ground-squirrel, though in modern times in some parts of Germany the badger is designated. There is a saying that a German farmer would rather see a wolf enter his barn on February 2, than the sun. From early Roman times February 2 was the festival of the goddess Februa, the mother of Mars. The Latin Mars was originally not a god of war but of agriculture. As god of agriculture a sun-god was his appropriate mother. Each year on February 2 the votaries of Februa appeared with lights, endeavouring to assist the sun-Pluto sent his creatures forth to work a counter spell. But if thick, protecting clouds intervened they could not see the sun to work their magic; the magic of the votaries of Februa took effect; the creatures of Pluto knew that the day was up and there would be an early spring. Had they succeeded they would have returned for a further enjoyment of Pluto's hospitality. Having failed they stage above, begun to look after their own

MORE WAR TALK.

WHO RULES THE WAVES?

According to the *Free Press*, a favourite speculation among men out here whose thoughts stretch beyond The Damsel and the slump in piece goods, is the part Singapore is likely to play in the future of the Empire as a fortress and as a naval base. The optimist sees Singapore a first class naval base, one of the most important in the world. Having already a fine dry dock and engineering resources capable of being expanded into a great repairing station, he sees our island the centre of the web of communication stretching away to India, South Africa, Australia, the whole Malayan Archipelago, and China. To support or defend this great naval base ashore, he sees enormous batteries, with long range guns, built far removed from the present forts within a rifle shot of the main shore of the island. He predicts ample protection of these batteries from attack from the air, and sees in his mind's eye a large aerodrome, perhaps on the levelled summit of Blakan Mati, and submarines threading their way through the Straits east and west to meet a possible enemy. It is all very interesting and flatters the imagination of the planners of a future war. But the fact remains, that all developments of the kind are as little likely to be realised as the dreams of a great rubber growers combine to fix the price of the commodity throughout the world. The world has not got the necessary capital to spare to create such great engines of war or commerce. . . . Geographical circumstances indicate that when unfortunately the next naval war takes place, Singapore will be on the edge of the battle area, that is the Pacific. That adds zest to the speculations as to the future of Singapore in the history of the world's naval warfare.—*Straits Echo*.

This, in brief is the "Why" of the ground-hog superstition. There is material enough extant for an interesting monograph on the subject.

NOTICES.

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POST OFFICE NOTICES.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

The General Office will be open on Tuesday, the 24th instant from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. only.
There will be one delivery of Ordinary and Registered Correspondence and one collection of letters from the Pillar Boxes.
The Money Order Office will be entirely closed.
The District Post Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. with the exception of Kowloon Office, which will be open from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. only and Sheung Wan Office which will be open from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
There will be one delivery from District Offices at noon.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Owing to indisposition, Mr. R. E. Lindsell was unable to take his seat in the second court at the Magistracy, yesterday. Mr. A. Dyer Ball, who took his place, intimated to solicitors interested in part-heard cases that Mr. Lindsell hoped to be able to resume his duties in a few days' time.

The Canton Times, is officially informed by the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs that the report which appeared in the Kwoh Wah newspaper yesterday, to the effect that a number of labourers holding passports issued by the Canton Government were refused passage from Hongkong on the ground that the Hongkong Government does not recognize the Canton Government, is a pure fabrication. The Commissioner adds that no passports have been issued to labourers by his office.

It is reported that when the American Gunboat "Pampanga" went up the West River last week, the Captain discovered some Chinese registered steamer flying the American flag. The Captain of the "Pampanga" ordered the American flags to be taken down and reported the matter to the United States Consulate in Canton. Acting Consul General, Mr. Ernest B. Price reported the matter to the Commissioner of Customs at Shamshui and asked that the offenders be severely punished in accordance with the law. He also notified the officials in Canton regarding the case.

Not willing to abide with the outrageous regulations of the factory issued by their employers, the women workers of a certain hosiery factory in Hongkong threaten to strike if the regulations are not rescinded, declares the Canton Times. Some of the regulations provide that any worker found sitting during work hours will be fined 10 cents; whoever joins a labour union will be discharged; each worker shall join a certain club of the factory and must pay the sum of \$3 as membership fee. So threatening is the attitude of the women worker that the manager of factory has decided to withdraw these regulations. Consequently, all the workers have agreed to return to work.

The five men charged with the unlawful possession of a gold ring were brought before Mr. Dyer Ball at the Magistracy yesterday, when four of them were discharged. Sub-Inspector C. McNab Wilson, M.C., in charge of Kowloon City district, having informed the Magistrate that all inquiries had failed to collect sufficient evidence to identify the defendants with a highway robbery in which a young woman returning home at 3 a.m., on May 17 after an all-night performance at a Chinese theatre in Kowloon City, was set upon by several men who relieved her of a gold ring. The ring had been found concealed in the defendants' house under the first man's pillow. In Court the woman identified the ring as her property. She did not recognise the defendant as one of her assailants as the attack was made at a dark and lonely spot. The defendant stubbornly declared that the ring had been given to him by an aunt when he was hard up. He did not pawn it as intended as he had a sudden windfall. The aunt, called as a witness, supported this story but was unable to give an accurate description of the ring. The Magistrate sentenced the defendant to three months' hard labour for possession of the ring and twelve months for returning from banishment before his ten years had expired. The sentences are concurrent.

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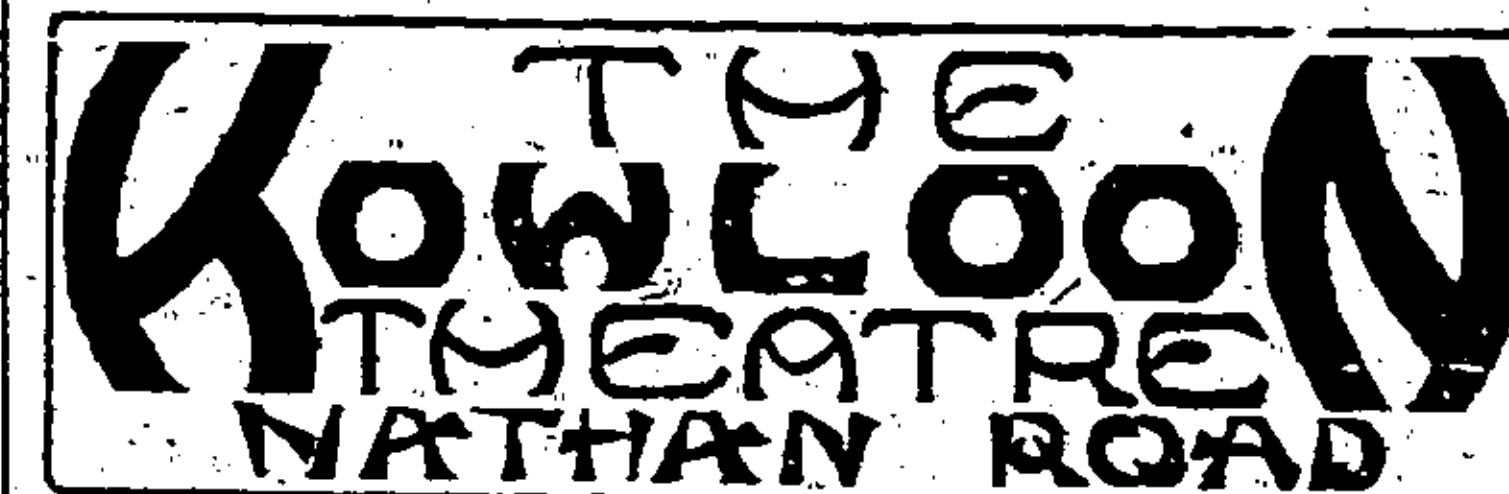
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DOES A LUMP COME INTO OUR THROATS WHEN WE CRY?

Like the eye and the ear and many other portions of the body, the throat is a most delicate structure, designed with the triple function of a channel connecting the mouth with the stomach, the space through which air is carried down toward the lungs and the holding of the vocal chords, which control speech. For this reason, when the brain is not sufficiently developed, or when it is not acting as it should as in the case of young children or persons who are mentally defective, we usually find a consequent difficulty in speech and a constant swallowing, as if to remove some obstruction in the throat.

Practically the same thing applies when persons are so overwrought that they have to seek refuge in tears. Grief, and sometimes anger, causes an upset condition which may be any one of a number of different phases of hysteria. The person

loses control, for the brain is not functioning properly with respect to the different actions of the body, and one of the effects is the feeling which we call "a lump in the throat." This lump is nothing more than a wavelike motion, precisely the reverse of swallowing, caused by a movement in the walls of the muscle which form the throat, only the wave moves upward instead of downward, as is the case when we swallow, and we get the impression that there is some obstruction, which leads persons who are on the verge of tears to "clear their throats" before they speak.

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